Holland & Hart



PRACTICES

Intellectual Property
Patent Preparation, Prosecution, and Counseling

INDUSTRIES

Fitness and Outdoor Recreation

EDUCATION

George Washington University School of Law, J.D.
Articles Editor, *American Intellectual Property Law Association (AIPLA) Quarterly Journal*
Winner, Giles Rich Intellectual Property Moot Court Competition at George Washington University Law
Semifinalist, Regional Giles Rich Intellectual Property Moot Court Competition
Recipient, The George Washington University Law School Merit Scholarship

Brigham Young University, B.S.

BAR ADMISSIONS

Utah
Virginia
District of Columbia
United States Patent and Trademark Office

Phil Harris

Partner

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Leveraging a background in mechanical and electrical engineering, Phil develops legal strategies that protect and manage business-critical patent portfolios in alignment with clients' business priorities.

Working with some of the world's most innovative technology companies, Phil prepares and prosecutes US and foreign patents with a focus on wireless communications, memory technology, electronics and software (including AI and cloud computing), along with complex medical and mechanical devices, chemical and manufacturing processes, and diverse material applications including in semiconductor products. Also a registered patent agent, he brings substantial experience drafting petitions, applications, expert declarations, and preparing persuasive submissions for ex parte and inter partes disputes at the United States Patent and Trademark Office.

Phil frequently writes, speaks, and provides commentary to media on a range of IP and technology topics. He also serves as Vice Chair on the Emerging Technology Committee of the American Intellectual Property Law Association.

As Practice Group Leader for the Patent team, Phil leads a team of 80+ high-tech and experienced patent attorneys, agents, engineers, and specialists. The team leverages automated technology solutions and applies innovative approaches to deliver high-quality, efficient, cost-effective legal services.

EXPERIENCE

Preparation and Prosecution

- Strategic portfolio development and management
- Domestic and international patent preparation and prosecution
- Standards-related patents

Opinions and Counseling

- Patent infringement and validity analysis
- Non-infringement/invalidity opinions
- Product design counseling

Patent Licensing and Due Diligence

- Strategic patent acquisitions
- Product clearances

- IP due diligence

Pre-litigation strategies

- Inter Partes Review (IPRs)
- Post-Grant Review Proceedings (PGRs)
- Pre-litigation strategies

PUBLICATIONS

"Beyond The Hype: Strategic Responses to USPTO's AI-Enhanced Patent Examination," *IAM*, September 5, 2025

"Heightened Risk and Higher Fees: Prepare for the New Age of Continuing Application Practice," *IPWatchdog*, June 24, 2024

"Encouragement and Caution: USPTO's Guidance on AI-Assisted Patent Drafting," *The Global Legal Post*, May 1, 2024

"Why Patent Eligibility is Ripe for SCOTUS Review," *World Intellectual Property Review*, October 24, 2022

"Patents and Standards: Practice, Policy, and Enforcement," *AIPLA/BNA Treatise, Lead Editor, Chapter Contributor*, 2018

SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

"A Fresh Start on Subject Matter Eligibility?," *American Intellectual Property Law Association*, July 29, 2026

"Navigating the Legal (and Ethical) Landscape of AI," *ACC Mountain West Annual Tech Law Symposium, Moderator*, April 14, 2023

"Requirements for Restriction and Election of Species—Techniques to Prevail and Minimize Harm, and Recent Developments," *American Intellectual Property Law Association*, January 19, 2023

"Gag Gift from the Supreme Court: The State of Patent Subject Matter Eligibility in the Wake of American Axle v. Neapco and Other Recent Section 101 Analysis," *American Intellectual Property Law Association Annual Meeting*, October 28, 2022

"Tech Talk: Best Practices for Communication Between Lawyers and Engineers," *ACC Mountain West InauguralTech Law Symposium*, April 1, 2022

RECOGNITION

- *The Best Lawyers in America*®, Patent Law, 2025-2027
- *IAM Patent 1000* – The World's Leading Patent Practitioners, Prosecution – Recommended, 2021-2026
- *Managing Intellectual Property*, IP Star, 2022-2026

- *Legal 500 US City Elite* - Utah, Intellectual Property, 2026
- *IAM Global Leaders*, 2026, 2027
- *Chambers USA,* Intellectual Property, 2022-2026; Up and Coming, 2022, 2023
- *Best Lawyers: Ones to Watch in America*®, Intellectual Property Law; Patent Law, 2022-2024
- Mountain States Super Lawyers® Rising Stars, Intellectual Property, 2022, 2023
- *Utah Business Magazine*, Utah Legal Elite, Intellectual Property, 2020, 2022, 2025

PROFESSIONAL AND CIVIC AFFILIATIONS

- American Intellectual Property Law Association (AIPLA)
  - Emerging Technology Committee, Chair
  - Amicus Brief Committee
  - Professional Programs Committee
- Association of Corporate Counsel, Mountain West Chapter, Tech Law Symposium Planning Committee, 2022 and 2023
- Utah Bar Association, Intellectual Property Section, Executive Committee, 2022 Secretary; 2023 Vice President
- David K. Winder, Intellectual Property America Inn of Court, Member
- Holland & Hart Salt Lake City office PR Committee, Member