



Trevor Foster

ASSOCIATE

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OVERVIEW

Trevor drafts, negotiates, and advises on intellectual property and biological material licenses, transactions, and technology transfer.

Trevor works with research institutions, universities, technology transfer offices (TTOs), start-ups, and established companies on a wide array of transactional intellectual property (IP) matters, assisting both owners of IP as well as those seeking to purchase, acquire, use, or license IP. He regularly drafts, negotiates, and advises on a range of transactions, including:

- Agreements concerning the licensing of patents; copyrights and software; trade secrets and know-how; and biological materials such as plant, human, and animal cell lines, proteins, and genetic materials;
- Agreements concerning the development and management of IP, such as patent assignments, joint development agreements (JDAs), research agreements, and inter-institutional agreements (IIAs); and
- Business and procurement agreements, such as master services agreements (MSAs), beta-user agreements, confidentiality and nondisclosure agreements (CDAs and NDAs), distribution agreements, and materials transfer agreements (MTAs).

Industries

Education
Healthcare
Life Sciences

Services

Intellectual Property
Intellectual Property Counseling
Licensing & Tech Transfer
Software Development & Licensing
Technology Commercialization

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Trevor frequently advises on the unique considerations that arise when IP is developed using federal grants, funding, and other awards. He is highly knowledgeable about the Bayh-Dole Act and its implementing regulations, particularly in the context of IP licensing, as well as government contracting and procurement under the Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) and Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement (DFARS).

Trevor began his career as an IP litigator, where he worked on complex patent litigation matters concerning a variety of technologies. He parlays his litigation experience into his transactional work by considering the risks and liabilities that may arise due to various contractual provisions and decisions made while drafting and negotiating agreements.

After earning degrees in biochemistry and philosophy, Trevor wanted to combine his writing skills with the opportunity to work with cutting-edge technology. He chose to pursue a career in IP law, where he thrives on guiding clients as they bring exciting innovations to market. Prior to entering the legal field, Trevor worked in multiple biology and chemistry laboratories, including a medicinal chemistry research lab and a state crime and toxicology lab. Clients value Trevor's attention to detail and practical, business-focused approach to legal counsel.

Recognition

- Best Lawyers in America: Ones to Watch, Intellectual Property Law, 2024-2025
- *Illinois Super Lawyers*, Rising Star, 2026

Education

- J.D., University of Southern California Gould School of Law
 - Order of the Coif
 - *Southern California Law Review*, Senior Submissions Editor
- B.S., Marquette University
 - *summa cum laude*
 - Biochemistry & Molecular Biology; Philosophy

Admissions

- Illinois
- U.S. Patent and Trademark Office

*Contact Trevor to set up an in-person consultation by appointment in the Chicago office.