maschoff brennan



Jonathan Benns, Ph.D.

Registered Patent Attorney • Partner

let's connect

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education

- J.D., University of Utah, S.J. Quinney College of Law
- Ph. D., University of Utah, Pharmaceutics and Pharmaceutical Chemistry
- B. S., University of Utah, Chemical Engineering

expertise

U. S. Patent Prosecution • International Patent Prosecution
Licensing • Transactional Work & Client Counseling

Jonathan Benns is a shareholder and an intellectual property attorney with Maschoff Brennan, where he focuses on patent drafting and prosecution of international patent applications in order to obtain granted patents all across the world. He has particular experience in preparing patent applications that provide the required basis and support for obtaining international patent claims that result in broad coverage for patent protection in each jurisdiction. His experience in handling both domestic and international patent prosecution, whether locally or foreign sourced, gives his clients a unique advantage from obtaining counsel based on seasoned education in the intellectual property arts. Jonathan frequently provides counsel on numerous patent issues to advise his clients on clearance inquiries, patentability assessments, freedom-to-operate reviews, infringement analyses, non-infringement strategies, and other patent-related issues.

Dr. Benns received his Bachelor of Science degree in chemical engineering in 1996 from the University of Utah. He then received his Ph.D. in pharmaceutics and pharmaceutical chemistry in 2001 from the University of Utah, and then he received his J.D. from S. J. Quinney College of Law at the University of Utah in 2004. Now, he leverages those experiences to provide technology-based intellectual property law counsel to his clients. During his legal career, Jonathan has had the opportunity to broaden his technological background to work on a number of complex inventions from areas ranging from chemistry, pharmaceuticals and biotechnology to nutraceuticals, biocompatible medical devices, complex materials, laser semiconductors, analytical and diagnostic equipment, distance measurement and imaging systems, and artificial intelligence systems for complex chemical structure generation.

Top 100 Best Performing Attorney 2025 Patent Prosecution Patexia

MASCHOFF BRENNAN 2027 RECOGNIZED BY Best Lawyers

my focus

Artificial Intelligence | Biotechnology | Chemical | Computers & Databases

Consumer Goods & Services | Clean Technology & Renewable Energy | Health Care | Licensing & Transactions

Life Sciences | Manufacturing | Medical Devices | Opinions & Counseling

Patent Prosecution | Pharmaceutical | Portfolio Management | Semiconductor

Technology Transfers & Transactions | Trademark Prosecution

technical experience

- Pharmaceuticals
- Biotechnology & Life Sciences
- Chemistry
- Chemical and Fuels Engineering
- Polymers
- Polymer Chemistry
- Nanotechnology
- Nucleic Acid Technology
- Nucleic Acid Delivery
- SiRNA and RNAi Technology
- Genetics
- Gene Therapy
- Virology
- Immunodiagnostics
- Nutraceuticals
- Medical and Dental Device Technology
- Energy and Fuel Technologies
- Plastics
- Material Sciences –
  Starches, Cementitious Materials, Biodegradable Consumer Products, Foam Materials and Product, and Asphalt Products
- Inkjet Technology
- Computer Systems, Software, E-Commerce, Business Methods & Information Technology
- Bioinformatics
- Bioanalytical Systems and Software
- Computer Diagnostic Systems for Compositions
- Automated High Throughput Systems and Software
- Automated High Content Systems and Software
- Rapid Prototyping Systems
- Alternative Energy

professional admissions & associations

- Utah State Bar
- Registered Patent Attorney
- American Intellectual Property Law Association (AIPLA)
- American Bar Association (ABA)
- Supreme Court Historical Society

publications & presentations

- Optimization of Factors Influencing Transfection Efficiency of Folate-PEG-Folate-Graft Polyethylenimine JM Benns et al., J of Controlled Release; 79(1-3): 255-69 (2002).
- Folate-PEG-Folate-Graft Polyethylenimine-Based Cytokine Gene Delivery for Cancer Treatment JM Benns et al., J of Drug Targeting; 9(2): 123-39 (2001).
- pH-Sensitive Cationic Polymer Gene Delivery Vehicle: N-Ac-Poly(L-histidine)-Graft-Poly(L-lysine) Comb Shaped Polymer JM Benns et al., Bioconjugate Chemistry; 11(5): 637-45 (2000).
- Tailoring New Gene Delivery Designs for Specific Targets JM Benns et al., J of Drug Targeting; 8(1): 1-12 (2000).
- International Symposium Extracts
- Folate-PEG-Folate-Graft Polyethylenimine Gene Carrier JM Benns et al.
- International Symposium on Biomaterials and Drug Delivery Systems In Conjunction with 2nd Asian International Symposium on Polymeric Biomaterials Science Cheju Island, Korea (2000)
- Transport Into Cytoplasm Via pH Sensitive Cationic Polymer Gene Delivery Vehicle: N-Ac-Poly(L-histidine)-Graft-Poly(L-lysine) Comb Shaped Polymer JM Benns et al.
- 26th International Symposium on Controlled Release of Bioactive Materials Boston, MA (1999)
- Sequence Listing Requirements in Patent Applications – Continued Legal Education Seminar Salt Lake City, UT May 16, 2008
- A Chemical Engineer in Patent Law – Department of Chemical Engineering, University of Utah – Salt Lake City, UT – Chemical Engineering 4755 guest lecture: Jan. 24, 2006
- Merck v. Integra: Infringement or FDA Exemption? – Continued Legal Education Seminar Salt Lake City, UT – Jul 1, 2005
- Gene Therapy and Gene Delivery – Department of Pharmaceutics and Pharmaceutical Chemistry, University of Utah – Salt Lake City, UT – Pharmaceutics 7030 guest lecture: Apr. 20, 2001, Apr. 17, 2002, and Apr. 17, 2003
- Tailoring Functional Polymeric Gene Carriers – Department of Pharmaceutics and Pharmaceutical Chemistry, University of Utah – Salt Lake City, UT – Doctoral Dissertation Defense: Apr. 11, 2001
- Folate-PEG-Folate-Graft Polyethylenimine Gene Delivery – Department of Pharmaceutics and Pharmaceutical Chemistry – University of Utah – Salt Lake City, UT – Seminar: Nov. 20, 2000
- Enhanced Transfection by pH Sensitive Cationic Polymer – Department of Pharmaceutics and Pharmaceutical Chemistry, University of Utah – Salt Lake City, UT – Seminar: Jan. 10, 2000
- Advanced Gene Delivery Designs – Department of Pharmaceutics and Pharmaceutical Chemistry, University of Utah – Salt Lake City, UT – Seminar: Oct. 26, 1998

awards & recognition

- U.S. News & World Report's Best Lawyers; Patent Law (2021 – 2027)
- Patexia Insights
  - Ranked #66, *Best Performing Attorney in Biotech* (2025)