

Richard B. Emmons, Ph.D.

Partner

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Overview

Dr. Richard Emmons provides strategic patent guidance, global portfolio development, and investment-focused IP advisory to life sciences, med-tech, and deep-tech innovators. He works closely with executive teams, scientific founders, and investors to protect breakthrough technologies and unlock value across the product lifecycle—from early R&D through commercialization and exit.

With a Ph.D. in Developmental Biology from Washington University School of Medicine and postdoctoral training at Harvard Medical School, Dr. Emmons brings deep expertise across bioinformatics, genetics, immunology, molecular and cell biology, and translational medicine. His practice also spans frontier technologies, including AI-enabled platforms, medical devices, IoT systems, automotive innovation, and clean tech.

Dr. Emmons partners with private and public companies, family offices, and institutional investors to lead IP due diligence, evaluate scientific and regulatory risk, and de-risk investment decisions across biotechnology and high-technology sectors. His experience includes advising on mergers and acquisitions, supporting venture financing transactions, and conducting landscape analyses to identify competitive advantage and white-space opportunities.

He regularly counsels clients on freedom-to-operate positions, patentability, and patent enforcement strategy, and supports contentious matters including inter partes review (IPR) and post-grant review (PGR) before the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO).

Representative technology areas include ag-tech, antibodies, biologics, gene therapy, gene editing, enzymes, protein engineering, digital twins, diagnostics, cell therapy, regenerative medicine, neural and metabolic disorders, microbiome therapeutics, nucleic acid therapeutics, immuno-oncology, biofuels, nutraceuticals, medical devices, automotive systems, GIS technologies, and vaccines.

Dr. Emmons is known for delivering creative, business-aligned solutions that integrate deep scientific understanding with pragmatic IP strategy—helping clients secure and scale transformative innovation in competitive global markets.

Firm Leadership:

- Co-Leader, Patent Prosecution & Counseling Practice

Practices & Industries

Academic Institutions & Higher Education

Family Office

Healthcare & Life Sciences

Intellectual Property & Technology

Patent Prosecution & Counseling

Post Grant Proceedings

Experience

No aspect of this advertisement has been approved by the highest court of any state. Prior results do not guarantee a similar outcome.

Performed investor due diligence on dozens of early-stage biotech companies for partnering deals with a large family office

Performed a landscape analysis for a Fortune 500 company in the vaccine/LNP space

Performed an IP diligence for a gene therapy company that helped the client obtain approximately $75 million in early series financing

Actively counseled clients on strategic management of complex patent portfolios related to medical device instruments

Completed an IP due diligence for a major acquisition by a Fortune 500 client in the immunotherapeutic space

Education and Credentials

Education

Harvard Medical School, post-doc., Epigenetics

Washington University, Ph.D., Developmental Biology

Suffolk University Law School, J.D.

College of the Atlantic, B.A.

Admissions

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office

Affiliations

American Bar Association

Recognition and Community

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Recognitions

Named to *Lawdragon's* 500 Leading Global IP Lawyers list, 2026

Chosen for inclusion in the Top Recommended, Life Sciences, by The SPEAR'S 500, 2021

Selected to the list of *Super Lawyers*® Rising Star, 2014-2021

Community Involvement

Extraordinary Women Advancing Healthcare in MA, Steering Committee Member, (2019-2022)

Little Cumberland Island Wildlife Refuge, Board Member, (2013-2022)

Long Range Planning Committee, Member (1996-2006)

Insights

When AI Becomes a Medical Device: FDA Boundaries for Patient-Facing Health Tools
MedTech Insight, October 26, 2026

IP Due Diligence Has a Shelf Life: Why Investors Must Reexamine IP at Every Round
Day Pitney Alert, October 22, 2026

Patently Enabled August 2026 - Design Patents Beyond the Display: Digital and Immersive Interfaces Under the USPTO's 2026 Guidance
Day Pitney Patently Enabled Newsletter, August 18, 2026

Rescheduling Cannabis: The Coming Collision with Ag-Biotech Regulation
mg Magazine, May 19, 2026

Patently Enabled March 2026 - Patent Titles in U.S. Practice: Scope, Interpretation, and Strategic Considerations
Day Pitney Patently Enabled Newsletter, March 3, 2026

Patently Enabled November 2025 – A Procedural Trap for Patents: The Constructive Election Rule
Day Pitney Patently Enabled Newsletter, November 7, 2025

Investing in Innovation: A Family Office Primer on IP Due Diligence | Generations August / September 2025
August 20, 2025

News

Day Pitney's Richard Emmons Named to the 2026 Lawdragon 500 Leading Global IP Lawyers List
Day Pitney Press Release, June 24, 2026

Day Pitney Grows National IP Practice With Boston Life Sciences Patent Team
Day Pitney Press Release, February 24, 2025

In The Media

Improving Health Outcomes While Bolstering Investment Returns: Approaches to Investing in the Healthcare Sector Ranging from Wellness to MedTech to Biotech
April 29, 2025

Day Pitney Family Office Forum 2025
April 29, 2025

Day Pitney Grows IP Practice With Life Sciences Patent Trio
Bloomberg Law Automation , March 5, 2025

Day Pitney Expands Boston Office with Key Hires in Life Sciences Patent Law Practice
Legal News Feed, March 3, 2025

Hub Hires: Freshfields, Day Pitney, Paul Hastings, Cozen
Law360, March 3, 2025

Withers Life Sciences IP Team Joins Day Pitney In Boston
Law360, February 24, 2025