



## → Lorna L. Tanner

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Lorna Tanner is a partner in the Intellectual Property Practice Group in the firm's Silicon Valley and San Francisco offices and is the Leader of the firm's Life Sciences Team.

*"Lorna has a great strategic mind."*  
- Chambers USA, 2023

### Areas of Practice

Lorna's practice focuses on global intellectual property (IP) protection strategy and technology transfer issues, including patent procurement and enforcement, IP valuation and monetization, licensing, and technology transfer. She has worked on patent portfolios relating to 15 approved drugs and biologics. Her practice is highly focused on drug candidates and approved therapeutics and counseling clients on IP issues relating to product launch, including patent term extensions, Orange Book listings, and pre- and post-grant challenges. She also has an extensive diligence practice relating to initial and follow on public offerings, in-licensing, out-licensing, mergers, and collaborations and opinion practice relating to financings, inventorship, and freedom to operate.

While Lorna's emphasis is in small molecules in clinical development, she also has in depth experience with antibodies, modified proteins and viruses; immunotherapy such as CAR T; biopolymers; drug delivery, including pulmonary, topical, and pharmaceutical formulations. Lorna also has experience with green technologies and agricultural products.

Clients have commented that Lorna is "an exceptionally good life sciences practitioner"

### Honors

Finalist, Patent Strategy Attorney of the Year - California, *LMG Life Sciences*, 2025

Top 250 Women in IP, *Managing Intellectual Property*, 2023-2025

Global IP Strategist, *IAM Strategy 300 Global Leaders*, 2022-2025

Leading IP Strategist, *IAM Strategy 300*, 2022-2023

Leading Lawyer, Intellectual Property: Patent Prosecution – California, *Chambers USA*, 2022-2025

Leading Life Sciences Lawyer - Intellectual Property (Patent Strategy & Management), *LMG Life Sciences*, 2021-2025

The World's Leading Patent Professionals, *IAM Patent 1000*, 2019, 2021-2023, 2025

Patent IP Star, *Managing Intellectual Property*, 2020-2025

Patent Strategy Attorney of the Year - California, *LMG Life Sciences*, 2021

Intellectual Property Star, Patent Strategy & Management, *LMG Life Sciences*, 2019

Top Intellectual Property Lawyers, *Daily Journal*, 2018-2019

Women Leaders in Tech Law, *The Recorder*, 2017

Recognized for patent prosecution work, *Legal 500*, 2011

## Experience

- Gilead Sciences, Inc. - Prosecuting numerous patent portfolios directed to hepatitis C and cardiovascular approved drugs and drugs in development.
- Global Blood Therapeutics, Inc., acquired by Pfizer - Developing and prosecuting patent portfolio directed to voxelotor and other compounds in the pipeline.
- Denali Therapeutics, Inc. - Prosecuting numerous patent portfolios directed to several targets, including the foundational IP licensed to Biogen and also Sanofi.
- Structure Therapeutics, Inc. – Prosecuting numerous patent portfolios directed to lead molecules.
- Theravance, Inc. – Prosecuting numerous patent portfolios relating to drug products and drug candidates.
- Outside patent counsel to publicly traded biopharma company, prosecuting patents relating to drug candidates for treating anemia.
- Outside patent counsel to numerous emerging biopharma companies developing and prosecuting patents directed to drug discovery assays, medical devices and combination drug products.

## Articles

- 2025 Top-of-Mind Issues for Life Sciences Companies  
01.31.2025
- 2024 Top-of-Mind Issues for Life Sciences Companies  
01.25.2024
- Co-author, "America Invents Act: Law & Analysis," *Wolters Kluwer*, 2012

### FDA Law Blog Posts

- "2025 Top-of-Mind Issues for Life Sciences Companies," January 31, 2025
- "2024 Top-of-Mind Issues for Life Sciences Companies," January 25, 2024

### Intellectual Property Law Blog Posts

- "Federal Circuit Confirms Addition of Two Inventors of Groundbreaking Immunotherapies for Cancer," July 15, 2020
- "USPTO Provides Form for Claiming 30-Day COVID-19 Extensions," May 7, 2020

- "Congress Gives Patent and Trademark Office Temporary Authorization to Move Deadlines in Light of COVID-19 Pandemic" March 27, 2020
- "*Federal Circuit Weighs in on Patent Subject-Matter Eligibility of Dietary Supplements*," March 21, 2019

## Media Mentions

Aridis Pharmaceuticals' \$26 Million Initial Public Offering  
*Global Legal Chronicle*, 09.25.2018

Women Leaders in Tech Law: Lorna Tanner, Sheppard Mullin  
*The Recorder*, 10.02.2017

## Practices

Intellectual Property

Patent Prosecution and Counseling

Healthcare

Post-Grant Proceedings

## Industries

Healthcare

Life Sciences

## Education

J.D., Santa Clara University School of Law, 2002

B.S., University of California, Berkeley, 1999

## Admissions

California

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office

U.S. District Court for the Northern District of California

U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit

U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit

## Additional Office

San Francisco