

Steven Avena

Of Counsel

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Steven structures patent protection strategies for technology companies—from initial prosecution through post-grant proceedings—so their innovations in semiconductors, communications, and cloud computing translate into defensible, high-value IP portfolios.

Steven Avena concentrates his practice on building and defending patent portfolios for clients working at the frontier of hardware and software innovation. His technical grounding in semiconductor devices, cloud-based IT and data management services, cellular and satellite communication, and firearms informs every stage of his work—from drafting and prosecuting U.S., international, and foreign patent applications to developing protection strategies aligned with industry standards and specific products.

For clients building out their IP position, Steven provides patentability and clearance analysis and designs portfolio growth and management strategies that reflect both near-term commercial priorities and longer-term competitive goals. He also counsels foreign associates navigating the U.S. patent system, offering the kind of substantive technical and legal context that makes cross-border prosecution more efficient and predictable.

On the post-grant side, Steven has led high-stakes proceedings before the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) on both the petitioner and patent owner side—a perspective that sharpens how he structures applications and claim sets from the outset. He also provides litigation support to trial teams, including analysis of non-infringement and invalidity positions, bridging the gap between prosecution strategy and courtroom reality.

Clients in the technology and intellectual property space turn to Steven when they need patent counsel who can read a circuit diagram as fluently as a claim chart—and who understands that a patent's value depends as much on how it is written and maintained as on the underlying invention.

Education

- University of Utah, S. J. Quinney College of Law (J.D., 2019)
 - Order of the Coif
- University of Colorado, Boulder (M.S., Electrical Engineering, Control Theory, Power Electronics Design, Integrated Circuit Design, 2014)
- Lehigh University (B.S., Electrical Engineering, 2012)

Bar Admissions

- Colorado
- United States Patent and Trademark Office

Select Experience

Representative Experience

- Manages patent portfolio development for a leading semiconductor and memory device company, drafting and prosecuting hundreds of patent applications and helping expand and strengthen its global patent portfolio.
- Represented a flexible packaging company in post-grant review proceedings and related patent prosecution matters, preparing responses to challenges and motions to amend that resulted in strengthened patent protection and enhanced licensing leverage.
- Represented a firearms manufacturer in an inter partes review (IPR), preparing the petition that resulted in partial invalidation of the asserted patent and a favorable interpretation of key claim terminology.

Court Admissions

- U.S. Patent and Trademark Office