

Sheppard Mullin Boosts IP Group With Ex-Kilpatrick Patent Pro

By Kelly Knaub

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Sheppard Mullin Richter & Hampton LLP said Monday that it has strengthened its intellectual property practice group in its Palo Alto, California, office with the addition of a former Kilpatrick Townsend & Stockton LLP attorney who serves clients in the life sciences, technology and telecommunications industries.

William R. Lambert, who has a broad technical background and more than two decades of experience in research and development, has joined the firm as a partner. He focuses his practice on patent prosecution and client counseling.

"I am thrilled to join Sheppard Mullin and have been very impressed by the firm's strategic vision and successful growth of the IP group," Lambert said in a statement. "I was especially attracted to the firm's strong California footprint and full-service platform."



William Lambert

Lambert told Law360 on Tuesday that he was attracted to the firm's growing IP practice, adding that its attorneys are a great group of people who really enjoy working as a team.

Palo Alto managing partner Paul S. Cowie said that Lambert's addition continues the expansion of the Palo Alto office, which has 30 attorneys, saying he adds further depth to the office's IP practice and brings significant life sciences and materials science expertise.

Lambert's clients come from a broad range of technologies, including pharmaceuticals, biotechnology, medical devices, polymers, physical chemistry, semiconductor and optoelectronic materials, electronic and photonic devices and fabrication, electronic packaging and manufacturing.

"Bill is a well-regarded patent prosecutor and an excellent addition to our formidable IP practice group," Guy N. Halgren, chairman of Sheppard Mullin, said in a statement. "He has a successful practice representing a variety of technology companies."

Lambert has also worked as patent counsel for a pharmaceutical start-up company in the Bay Area, where he was responsible for preparing and prosecuting patents related to small molecules, formulations and medical uses. He co-founded a startup electronic packaging company, is a named

inventor on 11 patents and has penned more than 50 scientific articles in peer-reviewed journals.

Lambert also served as a member of the technical staff in the physical science and materials research division of Bell Laboratories and Lucent Technologies Inc. for 17 years.

He earned his law degree from University of New Hampshire School of Law and his undergraduate degree in biochemistry from University of California, Berkeley. He also holds a Ph.D. in chemical physics from California Institute of Technology.

"Bill joins Sheppard Mullin as part of our ongoing strategic goal to expand our IP capabilities in Silicon Valley and firm wide," Daniel N. Yannuzzi, co-chairman of Sheppard Mullin's IP practice group, said in a statement. "He is an accomplished patent prosecutor and the latest high-profile lateral partner to join our growing team."

Sheppard Mullin's IP practice group firmwide has 100 attorneys. The firm itself has 700 attorneys in 15 offices located in the U.S., Europe and Asia.

--Editing by Christine Chun.

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