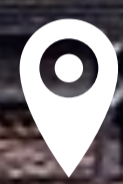


OCT
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USPTO, 600 Dulany Street Alexandria, VA 22314

Pathways to Inclusive Innovation

HOW UNDER RESOURCED
CONTRIBUTORS CAN PATENT, FUND,
AND SCALE THEIR INNOVATIVE IDEAS

UNITED STATES
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



PRO BONO
ADVISORY COUNCIL
Assisting the USPTO
administering
patent pro bono

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SPONSORS



Afternoon Agenda: USPTO

AFTERNOON SESSIONS: 12:30 PM - 1:00 PM

12:30 PM - 1:00 PM: REGISTRATION

1:00 PM - 1:15 PM: WELCOME AND INTRODUCTORY REMARKS

- Derrick Brent, Deputy Under Secretary of Commerce for Intellectual Property and Deputy Director of the USPTO

1:15 PM - 2:30 PM: PATENTS & TRADEMARK 101

- Mariessa Terrell, Trademarks Customer Outreach - Trademarks Overview
- Tim Rooney, Eastern Regional Outreach Office - Patents Overview

2:30 PM - 3:15 PM: FREE LEGAL SERVICES: PATENTS

- Anand Desai - Patent Pro Bono Program Overview
- Melanie Canter - Law School Clinic Certification Program
- Jenny Simmons - International Trademark Association (INTA) Pro Bono Clearinghouse

3:15 PM - 3:25 PM: BREAK

3:25 PM - 4:25 PM: FEDERAL RESOURCES FOR SMALL BUSINESSES

- Nick Rajpara, Economic Development Specialist - Washington Metropolitan Area Small Business Administration (SBA): services and programs offered by the SBA such as information on Small Business Development Centers (SBDC), Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR), Women's Business Centers (WBC), and Minority Business Development Agency (MBDA)

4:25 PM - 4:30 PM: WRAP-UP: CONCLUDING REMARKS

- Will Covey, Deputy General Counsel and Director for the Office of Enrollment and Discipline

4:30 PM - 5:30 PM: MEET THE EXPERTS *IN-PERSON ATTENDEES ONLY*

- Each of the experts will be available to in-person attendees to answer questions attendees may have about their respective resources.

USPTO Speakers



Derrick Brent

Deputy Under Secretary of Commerce for Intellectual Property and Deputy Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office

Derrick Brent is the Deputy Under Secretary of Commerce for Intellectual Property and Deputy Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO). He serves as the principal advisor to Kathi Vidal, Under Secretary of Commerce for Intellectual Property and Director of the USPTO, for one of the largest intellectual property (IP) offices in the world, with more than 13,000 employees and an annual budget of more than \$4 billion.

Deputy Director Brent has served in all three branches of the federal government and the private sector. He clerked for the Hon. Algenon L. Marbley, Chief Judge of the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Ohio, and served for six years as a Senior Trial Attorney at the U.S. Department of Justice, Civil Rights Division, where he received a Special Achievement Award for his trial work. He also served as a Chief Counsel in the U.S. Senate, where handled IP issues along with other areas such as constitutional law, civil rights, and judicial nominations.

Deputy Director Brent's experience in the private sector includes serving as Vice President/Associate General Counsel for Masimo, on the leadership team at Cut Golf, and as an engineer at General Motors.

Deputy Director Brent received a Bachelor of Science degree in mechanical engineering from The Ohio State University and a Juris Doctor degree from the Northwestern University School of Law (now the Northwestern University Pritzker School of Law).

USPTO Speakers



Will Covey

Deputy General Counsel and Director for the Office of Enrollment and Discipline

As Deputy General Counsel, Mr. Covey is responsible for ensuring that the nation's patent attorneys and agents are of good moral character and sufficiently knowledgeable to practice before the USPTO. Mr. Covey's team of attorneys and other professionals develops and administers a registration examination designed to measure an applicant's knowledge of patent law and practice. Successful applicants are registered to practice by OED. In addition, OED investigates complaints of unethical conduct made against individuals practicing patent and/or trademark law before the USPTO.

Mr. Covey has held a number of key positions at the USPTO, including Acting General Counsel and Deputy General Counsel for the Office of General Law. Mr. Covey was appointed to the Senior Executive Service in 2007.

Mr. Covey received his undergraduate degree from Fordham University (magna cum laude, Phi Beta Kappa) and earned his J.D. from Fordham University Law School in 1991. He graduated from Harvard University's JFK School of Government (Senior Executive Fellowship) in 2005 and the U.S. Army War College with an M.S. in Strategic Studies in 2010.

Prior to joining the USPTO in 2000, Mr. Covey was a Special Assistant U.S. Attorney for the District of New Jersey. He also served on active duty in the Pentagon, and was a senior officer in the Army Reserve assigned to the Office of the Army Staff, Office of the Judge Advocate General. He completed combat tours in Iraq (2007) and Afghanistan (2011) and served as Deputy Legal Counsel to the Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff. Mr. Covey retired from the Army in February 2022.



James Silberman

Senior Counsel for Enrollment and Intellectual Property Legal Services Office of Enrollment and Discipline

James M. Silberman is USPTO's Senior Counsel for Enrollment and Intellectual Property Legal Services in the Office of Enrollment and Discipline. He leads a team of attorneys that are responsible for all aspects of enrollment to practice before the USPTO, including development of the registration examination to measure an applicants' knowledge of patent law and practice. He also is responsible for oversight and management of the USPTO Patent Pro Bono and Law School Clinic Certification Programs.

Mr. Silberman is also responsible for Office of Enrollment and Discipline rulemaking and other non-disciplinary matters.

Prior to becoming Senior Counsel, Mr. Silberman was a staff attorney in the Office of Enrollment and Discipline handling enrollment and discipline matters and also supervising the Law School Clinical Certification Program. Before joining USPTO in 2005, Mr. Silberman worked at the law firm of Dickstein Shapiro Morin & Oshinsky LLP in Washington, D.C. and the Washington, DC office of Foley & Lardner LLP, where he specialized in intellectual property acquisitions, patent litigation and prosecution, and client consultation.

Mr. Silberman received his B.S. degree in Chemical Engineering from the University of Maryland, College Park, and his J.D. degree, magna cum laude, from the Catholic University of America, Columbus School of Law, where he was an editor of the Journal of Contemporary Health Law and Policy.

USPTO Speakers



Tim Rooney

Patent Attorney for the Office of Enrollment and Discipline

Mr. Rooney is a Patent Attorney at the Office of Enrollment and Discipline (OED) of the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO). His duties include investigating grievances alleging ethical misconduct by practitioners, evaluating applications for registration to practice before the USPTO in patent matters, and assisting with outreach to USPTO stakeholders. He received his bachelors of science in Biology from Virginia Tech and his J.D. from the George Mason University School of Law. Prior to joining the USPTO, he practiced patent law at Pillsbury Winthrop, specializing in patent procurement and intellectual property transactions.



Anand Desai

Patent Pro Bono Coordinator Detailee

Anand Desai received a doctorate in Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics from the University of Maryland and Graduate Partnership Program at National Institutes of Health. Anand's research focused on the expression of glutamate gated channels during brain development. Anand has been working at the United States Patent and Trademark Office since June 2003 as a patent examiner in the biotechnology center. Anand is currently on detail with the Patent Pro Bono Program.



Melanie Canter

Staff Attorney for the Office of Enrollment and Discipline

Melanie Canter joined the USPTO in 2016 as a Staff Attorney in the Office of Enrollment and Discipline. In that role, Ms. Canter investigates grievances alleging ethical misconduct by individuals who practice before the USPTO in patent or trademark matters. Ms. Canter also assists in administering the USPTO Patent Pro Bono Program and the USPTO Law School Clinic Certification Program.

Prior to joining the USPTO, Ms. Canter was an Assistant Executive Attorney for the Board on Professional Responsibility of the District of Columbia Bar, where she advised volunteer members on the hearing and disposition of attorney discipline cases and represented the Board in matters before the District of Columbia Court of Appeals. Previously, Ms. Canter practiced law as a litigation attorney in a law firm in New York City. In private practice, Ms. Canter primarily handled commercial and intellectual property litigation.

Ms. Canter received her Bachelor's degree from the College of William and Mary and her J.D. from The George Washington University Law School. She is admitted to practice law in New York and Washington, D.C.

USPTO Speakers



Mariessa Terrell

Trademark Examining Attorney

Mariessa Terrell began her trademark law career at the USPTO in 2000. After her departure from the USPTO, Mariessa worked as a solo trademark practitioner; in-house trademark attorney consultant for Lockheed Martin and Leidos Corporations; and trademark and fashion law professor at her alma mater Howard University School of Law (HUSL). In 2015, Mariessa was recruited to manage the USPTO Trademark Law Clinic at HUSL and was instrumental in helping to develop a Patent Clinic at HUSL in 2019.

Mariessa returned to the USPTO in 2020 and currently works as a trademark attorney advisor in the office of Trademarks Customer Outreach where she delivers educational content on advanced trademark topics to experienced practitioners. She earned her J.D from Howard University School of Law; her B.A., magna cum laude, from Pace University in New York City; and is admitted to the Maryland and District of Columbia bar associations. In her spare time, Mariessa volunteers with the High Tea Society, a life skills program for Washington, DC girls.



Jennifer Simmons

Director, Government Relations, Washington, D.C., International Trademark Association (INTA)

As Director of Government Relations, Ms. Simmons is INTA's liaison with federal government officials and contributes to the development of INTA's positions on national and global intellectual property (IP) issues.

Prior to joining INTA in 2019, Ms. Simmons served as Assistant General Counsel, Office of the General Counsel, at the United States Trade Representative (USTR). She was the lead IP attorney for the U.S.-Mexico-Canada Agreement and engaged with Congress and industry stakeholders. Ms. Simmons also served as Pro Bono Coordinator in the Office of the Under Secretary and Director, and as Associate Counsel in the Office of the General Counsel, at the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO).



Nick Rajpara

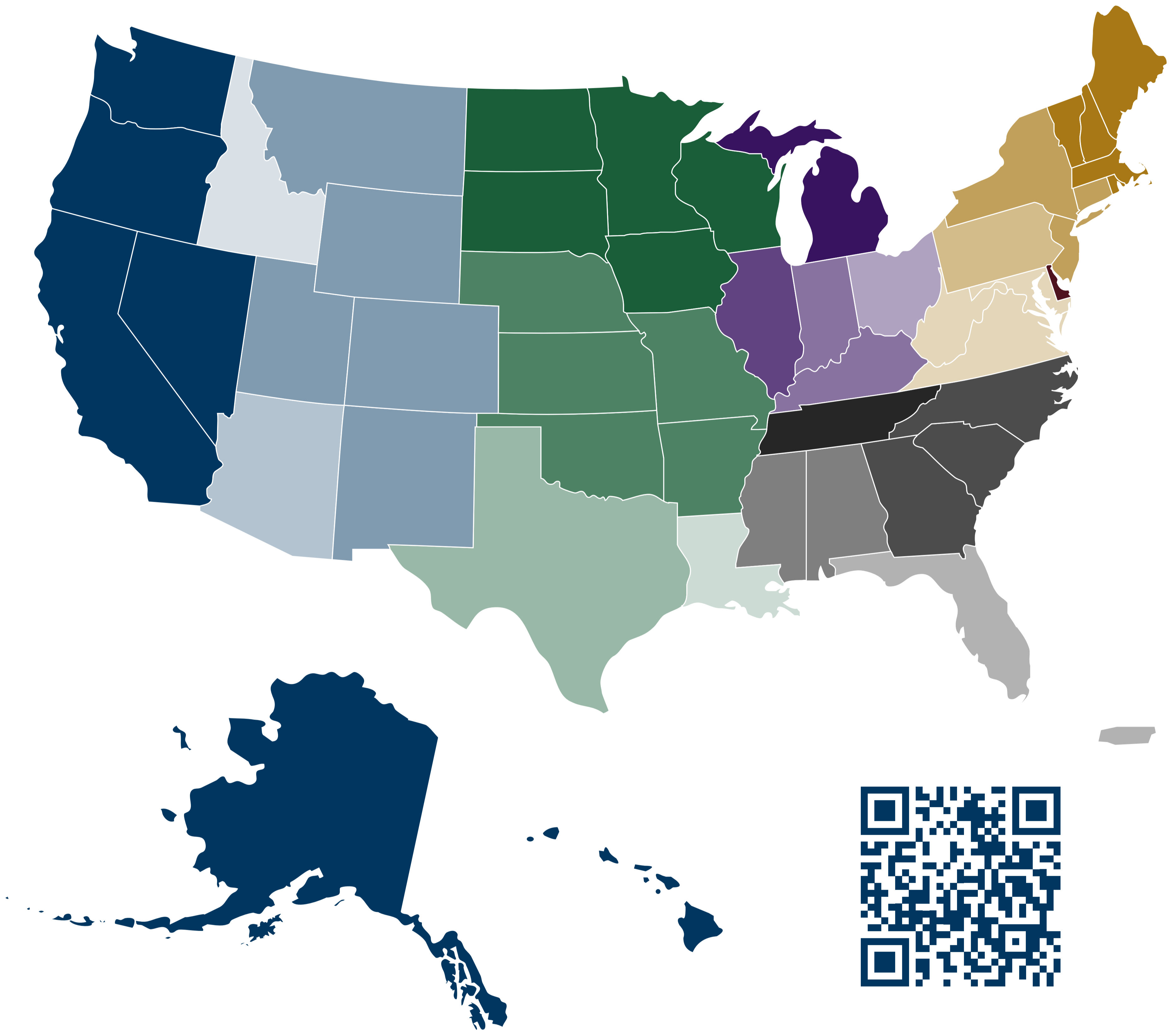
Economic Development Specialist at the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA)

Nirav "Nick" Rajpara is an Economic Development Specialist at the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA), Washington D.C. Area Metro Office (WMADO). In this role, he collaborates with local: SBA Resource Partners, (public and private) economic development organizations, and other stakeholders to develop, bolster and support informational initiatives which aid and assist small business and entrepreneurs across the national capital region.

In addition, he is the Program Manager for SBA's "Train. Hope. Rise. Innovate. Venture. Elevate." (T.H.R.I.V.E.) (Emerging Leaders Reimagined) initiative, a CEO-level acceleration academy which guides small business leaders on scaling and growing their business.

Nick is the Small Business Development Center (SBDC) Project Officer for WMADO. He oversees and collaborates with local SBDC networks in the Washington, DC metro area. Prior to joining the SBA, Nick served as a Small Business Counselor for the DC-SBDC at Howard University. He holds a Master's degree in Business Administration and a Master's degree in Public Policy from Pepperdine University. He has a Bachelor of Science degree from the University of California, Riverside.

Current nationwide coverage



- | | | |
|--|---|---|
| St. Louis U. Pro Bono Patent Program | New England Program | Idaho Patent Pro Bono |
| Texas Accountants and Lawyers for the Arts | New York Tri State Program | California Inventors Assistance Program |
| Louisiana Invents | Delaware Program | ProBoPat |
| Chicago-Kent Patent Hub | Federal Circuit Bar Assn. | Arizona Public Patent Program |
| PatentConnect | Penn State Law Intellectual Property Clinic | LegalCORPS |
| Ohio Invents | Tennessee PATENTS | Georgia PATENTS |
| Pro Bono Patent Project | BBVLP Patent Program | Patent Pro Bono FL |

Evening Agenda: PBAC

5:00 PM - 5:45 PM: REGISTRATION

5:45 PM - 7:00 PM: PANEL DISCUSSION

- Dr. Paul Campbell (Brown Venture Group), Jim Patterson (Pro Bono Advisory Council), Chike Okonkwo (Mansa), Dan Lockney (NASA), Melissa Bradley (1863 Ventures), Kiki Somerville (The Fearless Artist), DJ Dozier (Sports Innovation X), Rashad Howard (Epigen Technologies)

7:00 PM - 7:30 PM: TRANSITION TO BREAKOUTS

BERNE ROOM

7:30 PM - 8:30 PM: NAME, IMAGE AND LIKENESS

- DJ Dozier (Sports Innovation X)
- Aaron Wallace, Jr. (Onedrus)

PARIS ROOM

7:30 PM - 8:30 PM: WORKING WITH TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER OFFICES

- Paul Zielinski (Federal Laboratory Consortium)
- Dan Lockney (NASA)

SINGAPORE ROOM

7:30 PM - 8:30 PM: ALTERNATIVE FUNDING SOURCES & WOMEN-LED BUSINESSES

- Melissa Bradley (1863 Ventures)
- Kiki Somerville (The Fearless Artist)

VENICE ROOM

7:30 PM - 8:30 PM: SCALING YOUR STARTUP

- Jessica Johnson-Cope (Johnson Security Bureau)
- Rashad Howard (Epigen Technologies)
- Monika Hyacinth (Odd Vision)

HAGUE ROOM

7:30 PM - 8:30 PM: BANKING FOR STARTUPS

- Michael Vandergrift (Sandy Spring Bank)

ATRIUM

8:30 PM - 8:45PM: WRAP-UP: CONCLUDING REMARKS

- Dr. Paul Campbell (Brown Venture Group)

8:45 PM - 9:30 PM: NETWORKING

Panelist Speakers



James Patterson

Board Chair, Pro Bono Advisory Council

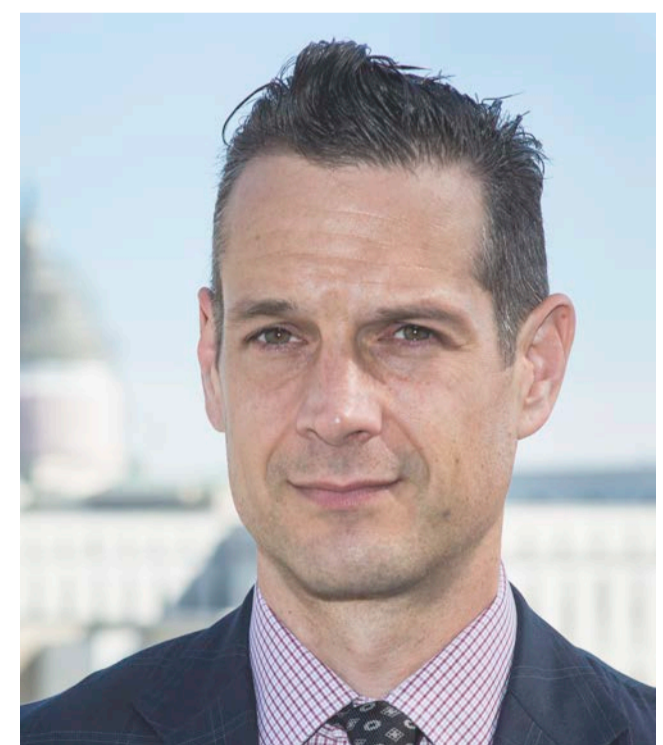
Mr. Patterson is the principal, and founder of Patterson Thuent IP, a leading intellectual property law firm located in Minneapolis Minnesota. Patent pro bono (PPB) got its start over a decade ago through Mr. Patterson's leadership in launching PPB's pilot program in his home state of Minnesota. Since then, Mr. Patterson has been instrumental in achieving PPB's 50 state coverage. Internationally, Mr. Patterson continues his leading role in the creation and on-going expansion of the international patent pro bono program managed by the World Intellectual Property Organization's Inventor Assistance Program, an initiative undertaken in conjunction with the World Economic Forum.



Dr. Paul Campbell

Managing Partner, Brown Venture Group

Dr. Paul Campbell is a co-founder and managing partner at Brown Venture Group, LLC. Launched in 2018, Brown Venture Group, LLC is a venture capital firm exclusively for Black, Latinx, and Indigenous technology startups and founders. Prior to launching Brown Venture Group, Dr. Campbell was a telecommunication sales executive as well as a serial entrepreneur, launching startups in IoT and media production. He was one of the Minneapolis/St. Paul Business Journals 2021 40 under 40 recipients and was recently also listed as one of the Twin Cities Business Magazine's Forbes, Bloomberg, Black Enterprise Magazine and Authority Magazine. He holds a Doctorate in Social Entrepreneurship and an MBA in Global Business Management.

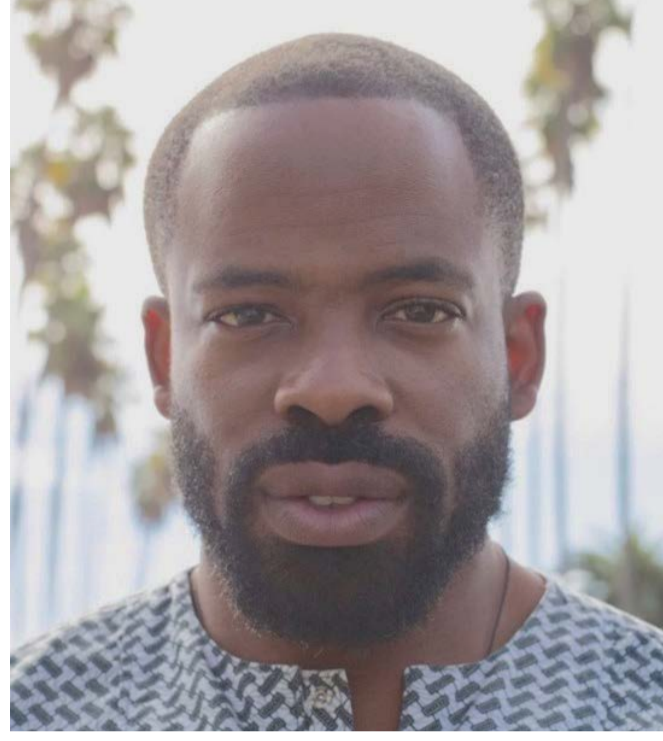


Dan Lockney

Technology Transfer Program Executive, NASA

Daniel Lockney is the Technology Transfer Program Executive at NASA Headquarters in Washington, DC, responsible for Agency-level management of NASA intellectual property and the transfer of NASA technology to promote the commercialization and public availability of Federally-owned inventions to benefit the national economy and the U.S. public. Lockney oversees policy, strategy, resources, and direction for the Agency's technology commercialization efforts. Lockney studied American Literature at the University of Maryland, Baltimore County and creative writing at Johns Hopkins University. He started his NASA career as a contractor in 2004, converting to civil service in 2010. He lives in University Park, Maryland, with his wife and two space pups, Astro and Cosmo.

Panelist Speakers



Chike Okonkwo

Co-Founder, Mansa

Mr. Okonkwo is best known as an actor, with leading roles in TV series *La Brea* and the 2016 production of *The Birth of a Nation*. In 2023, Mr. Okonkwo partnered with actors David Oyelowo and Nate Parker to launch *Mansa*, an AVoD platform focusing on content that celebrates and tells the stories of global black culture. *Mansa* offers curated longform and shortform film and TV shows, user-generated content, free ad-supported streaming (FAST) channels and video podcasts with the aim of creating a space for diverse narratives, perspectives, characters and creators that continue to be underrepresented.



Melissa Bradley

Managing Partner, 1863 Ventures

Melissa L. Bradley is a tri-sector leader and Managing Partner at 1863 Ventures with more than 20 years of entrepreneurship, investment and leadership experience. She is an Adjunct Professor at the McDonough School of Business at Georgetown University where she teaches impact investing, social entrepreneurship, P2P economies and innovation. Melissa has served as a Presidential Appointee under Presidents Clinton and Obama. Under Clinton, Melissa served as Financial Regulatory Affairs Fellow at the Department of Treasury, Office of Thrift Supervision, where she researched the impact of welfare reform and micro-enterprise lending on the financial industry and authored "IDA Strategy for Asset Accumulation."



Kiki Somerville

CEO, The Fearless Artist

Kiki Somerville, an entertainment industry veteran, speaker, and author with two decades of media experience, is the dynamic force behind Fearless Artist Media and TAPOPUP Gallery. Her journey from Holton Arms School to Fordham University School of Law laid the foundation for her remarkable career. After making her mark at major companies like MTV Networks and Sony BMG, Kiki's sabbatical in Paris sparked her passion for art and writing. Collaborating with artist Jude Papaloko "Thegenius," she launched the "Spirits of Haiti" exhibition in 2009, a pivotal moment that led to the birth of Fearless Artist Media and The Fearless Artist in 2011. This innovative platform, including TFAPOPUP Gallery, became a beacon for emerging artists, attracting over 2000 daily visitors since its debut in 2014 at Art Basel Miami/ Miami Art Week.

Panelist Speakers



Rashad Howard

CEO, Epigen Technologies

Rashad Howard, the Co-Founder and CEO of Epigen and Epigen Global UAE is a creative, a visionary, a serial entrepreneur, a captivating speaker, a thoughtful educator, a committed philanthropist, and an iconic voice in transformational leadership. He is passionate about helping people to think deeply and make choices that are intentional, impactful, and deeply meaningful to them as individuals. His life's work is dedicated to cultivating spaces where other people can acknowledge and discover their freedom; to build entire ecosystems where self-determination is their basic way of life.

Rashad is deeply moved by seeing people win at playing their own game....to come from wherever they are in life and do the work to learn, grow, and define for themselves what winning looks like. He wants to leave the world with something physical and spiritual that inspires everyone in it to do all they can to access their genius and be themselves. Rashad believes that each person has something inside them to express and offer the world. That special thing is their genius.

Rashad is an artist and believes that inspiration can strike at any time, and so he still takes his beat machine in his backpack everywhere he travels, along with his leather journal filled with pages full of rap verses; notes from client meetings; new ideas; and love letters to himself full of positive affirmations to stay centered in such a competitive entrepreneurial landscape. He has a wealth of knowledge and experience in business, technology, education, innovation, and leadership. He also has a Bachelor of Science in English from the United States Air Force Academy and an MBA from the Pamplin College of Business at Virginia Tech.



DJ Dozier

Principal, Sports Innovation X

DJ is a former NCAA Football Champion (Penn State, Heisman Trophy Candidate, 1st Team Collegiate All American). He was an NFL 1st round running back (Minnesota Vikings/ Detroit Lions); and MLB outfielder (New York Mets) and is part of a select group of only 27 athletes to ever play in the NFL and MLB. He has 24 years of business development, marketing, and business strategy and serves as SIX's Principal Consultant. He is an author ([link to Decide to Dominate book here](#)), former marketing director of a global sports brand, and has a B.S. in Commercial Recreation, Hospitality, & Tourism from Penn State University.

Breakout Session Speakers



Monika Hyacinth

CEO & Founder, ODD VISION

ODD VISION is pioneering the way we experience entertainment by bringing stunning, multiplayer, virtual experiences straight to the web and mobile platforms. Our vision redefines the future, empowering Creators of Culture to tell their stories and connect with their fans through immersive spatial computing, all while ensuring Creators retain ownership of their intellectual property.

Former Senior VP Global Marketing & Innovation at Universal Music, Monika is an award-winning music executive and has collaborated with some of the world's biggest artists and renowned brands in the entertainment industry, including The Weeknd, Justin Bieber, Jay-Z, Madonna and The Rolling Stones. She has remained at the forefront of emerging technology, creating groundbreaking products and content, including the world's first music Augmented Reality platform, and the world's first music VR platform.



Michael Vandergrift

Market Relationship Manager, Sandy Spring Bank

Michael W Vandergrift has been developing retail and business banking relationships in the Maryland, DC and Virginia markets for over 30 years. As an experienced consumer & commercial banker/lender, Michael helps companies and individuals grow & manage their finances for optimal results. Michael resides in the DMV area, is married with twin girls; served in the United States Marine Corp; earned his MBA from the University of Phoenix and is a graduate of the Virginia Banking Association School of Bank Management at Virginia University Darden School of Business.



Chris Campbell

Founder and CEO, Simpli-Fi Automation

Mr. Campbell is the founder and CEO of Simpli-Fi Automation, an electronic systems engineering firm. Chris has over 25 years proven experience in technology convergence with a focus on electrical systems automation and engineering. Within those 25 years, he served as operations and sales manager for several of the nation's largest electronic systems integration firms. As well as being a nationally recognized electrical systems integration engineer, Mr. Campbell has a bachelor's degree in theology with a passion for healthy communities, both in body and spirit.

Breakout Session Speakers



Aaron Wallace, Jr.

Co-Founder and CEO, Onedrus

Aaron Wallace, Jr. began his career as a player in the National Football League, playing for the Tennessee Titans. After retiring from football, Mr. Wallace attended an NFL Players Association Technology Transfer bootcamp program at NASA's Johnson Space Center. He then participated in NASA's FedTech Startup Studio in 2020, a virtual program hosted by NASA Glenn to help entrepreneurs explore startup formation. After licensing a NASA-invented air filtration technology, Mr. Wallace co-founded and currently leads Onedrus, aimed at serving large institutions with hard-to-access filters in multiple buildings, like schools and universities.



Jessica Johnson Cope

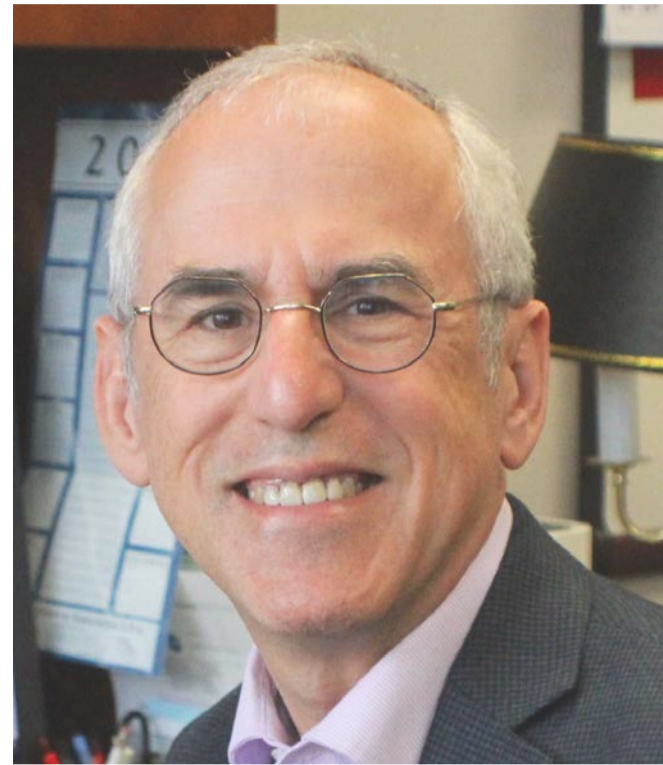
President and CEO, Johnson Security Bureau

Jessica Johnson-Cope earned the nickname The Security Lady by helping others feel safe on their way to financial security. As the President of Johnson Security Bureau, Inc., a third generation family-owned security services firm based in the Bronx, NY, Jessica leads a team that protects people and valuable property on behalf of global corporations. She is also the co-founder of The Soap Box, a premium laundry, dry cleaning, and sneaker cleaning business in Brooklyn, NY that she runs with her business and life partner Waleed Cope.

A graduate of Northwestern University's McCormick School of Engineering, Jessica has applied engineering concepts in sales roles with such corporations as IBM, Sanofi, and Boehringer Ingelheim Pharmaceuticals. Her sales career created the networking and communications foundation that Jessica has leveraged to become a successful entrepreneur.

Jessica Johnson-Cope is a champion for diverse and overlooked entrepreneurs. She serves on the boards of several organizations impacting small businesses, including the Business Initiative Corporation of New York, the New York & New Jersey Supplier Development Council, and the Goldman Sachs 10,000 Small Businesses Voices National Leadership Council.

Breakout Session Speakers



Harvey Schabes

Chief of the Technology Transfer Office, NASA

Harvey is Chief of the Technology Transfer Office (TTO) at NASA's Glenn Research Center. He manages Glenn's intellectual property portfolio and the Space Act Agreement process and ensures that Glenn technologies are made commercially available to benefit the national economy and the U.S. public. Harvey has almost 40 years of NASA experience.

Prior to joining the TTO, Harvey held numerous senior positions across the Center and has served as a researcher, project engineer, project manager, and a senior manager in both technical and administrative organizations during his tenure at the Center. Harvey joined NASA in 1983 as a research engineer developing new computer models for predicting the performance of new de-icing systems and performed extensive testing in the Icing Research Tunnel.

He earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Pittsburgh and a Master of Science degree in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Toledo. He has received numerous awards for his accomplishments and leadership including the NASA Exceptional Service Medal, and NASA Group Achievement Honor Award for both NASA's Business Systems Gap Analysis Team and the Competency Management Team.