

**Sterne Kessler and 18 Directors Garner Top Rankings  
for World-Class Patent Work in 2024 IAM Patent 1000**

**Washington, D.C.** (June 10, 2024) – *IAM* has once again recognized Sterne, Kessler, Goldstein & Fox in several areas of its *IAM Patent 1000* guide, an annual publication considered “the definitive ‘go-to’ resource for those seeking world-class, private practice patent expertise.” Eighteen individual Sterne Kessler directors have been ranked in the 2024 guide in several patent litigation and prosecution categories.

For the 13th consecutive year, Sterne Kessler was “highly recommended” in the categories of prosecution and transactions for the Washington, D.C. Metro Area. The firm also earned a “Silver” Band recognition for its highly regarded litigation practice. Nationally, Sterne Kessler received the top-tier “recommended” rating for post-grant proceedings and prosecution.

The *IAM Patent 1000* editors praise Sterne Kessler as “an IP powerhouse with capabilities across the entire spectrum of client needs.” They note that the firm “is a respected name on the Washington D.C. market. ...[that] supports patrons across the United States and beyond to build, secure and protect their most valuable innovations.” Further, the IAM editors report that Sterne Kessler boasts a “formidable” litigation team “that performs well in every forum” and has “an impressive team of patent prosecution specialists.” In addition to the rankings of the firm, 18 Sterne Kessler directors are recognized for excellence in the Washington, D.C. Metro Area, with six also distinguished with national recognition. The ranked directors are:

- [Richard D. Collier III](#) (DC Recommended – prosecution)
- [Tracy-Gene G. Durkin](#) (DC Silver Band – litigation; DC Highly Recommended – prosecution; National Recommended – design patents)
- [Eldora L. Ellison, Ph.D.](#) (DC Bronze Band – litigation; National Highly Recommended – post-grant proceedings)
- [Donald J. Featherstone](#) (DC Recommended – prosecution)
- [Thomas C. Fiala](#) (DC Recommended – prosecution)
- [Jorge A. Goldstein, Ph.D.](#) (DC Highly Recommended – prosecution; DC Recommended – transactions; National Recommended – life sciences prosecution)
- [Michael Joffre, Ph.D.](#) (DC Bronze Band – litigation)
- [Carla Ji-Eun Kim](#) (DC Recommended – prosecution)

- [Michael Q. Lee](#) (DC Highly Recommended – prosecution; DC Recommended – transactions)
- [Michael B. Ray](#) (DC Recommended – transactions)
- [John Christopher “J.C.” Rozendaal](#) (DC Silver Band – litigation)
- [Robert E. Sokohl](#) (DC Silver Band – litigation; DC Recommended – prosecution; DC Recommended – transactions)
- [Michael D. Specht](#) (DC Recommended – prosecution; National Recommended – post-grant proceedings)
- [Eric K. Steffe](#) (DC Recommended – prosecution)
- [Deborah Sterling, Ph.D.](#) (DC Recommended – prosecution)
- [Robert Greene Sterne](#) (DC Silver Band – litigation; DC Recommended – transactions; National Recommended – post-grant proceedings)
- [Dennies Varughese, Pharm.D.](#) (DC Bronze Band – litigation)
- [Daniel E. Yonan](#) (DC Silver Band – litigation; National Recommended – International Trade Commission)

View Sterne Kessler’s firm and individual rankings and profile [here](#). The complete 2024 *IAM Patent 1000* guide and more about the researchers’ methodology is available [here](#).

### **About Sterne, Kessler, Goldstein & Fox**

Based in Washington, D.C. and renowned for more than four decades for dedication to the protection, enhancement, and enforcement of intellectual property rights, Sterne, Kessler, Goldstein & Fox is one of the most highly regarded intellectual property specialty law firms in the world. Its team of attorneys, registered patent agents, technical specialists, specialized trademark paralegals, and law clerks include some of the country’s most respected practitioners of IP law, tackling innovations across a broad spectrum of industries. The firm’s practitioners represent Fortune 500 companies, entrepreneurs, start-ups, inventors, venture capital firms, and universities in a client service driven environment that is welcoming, inclusive, and intellectually stimulating. Visit the firm online at [sternekessler.com](http://sternekessler.com).

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