



# THINK FORWARD

## Brinks Gilson & Lione an "International Player," Says IAM Patent 1000

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CHICAGO—Intellectual property law firm Brinks Gilson & Lione is an “international player” and a “top IP boutique” having just “opened its office in Shenzhen, China,” according to *Intellectual Asset Management (IAM)* magazine’s annual guide to leading private practice patent professionals and firms in the world’s key jurisdictions, the IAM Patent 1000 2018–The World’s Leading Patent Professionals.

In its recently released seventh edition, IAM Patent 1000 designated Brinks again as Recommended in Illinois for transactions and patent prosecution. It also placed the firm in the Silver Band in Illinois for patent litigation, the Silver Band in patent law in North Carolina and the Bronze Band in Michigan for patent law.

The publication also recognized thirteen Brinks attorneys for their work in acquiring patent rights and advising on patent strategy.

IAM Patent 1000 named prosecutors Andrew Stover, Joseph Hetz, Ryan Marshall, Allen Baum and Jennifer Fox for doing “an outstanding job when it comes to acquiring patent rights.” Litigators, Ralph Gabric, Laura Beth Miller, Gary Ropski, Dominic Zandardino, Laura Lydigsen, Jim Cleland, Steven Oberholtzer and James Sobieraj were noted for having immense technical acuity, acquired from their science or engineering degrees.

With regard to patent prosecution, IAM Patent 1000 says “Brinks does an outstanding job when it comes to acquiring patent rights and is phenomenal around patent strategy more broadly.” It calls Hetz “an electrical expert” and Stover “a mechanical ace.” It recognized both as attorneys who “take precise temperature measurements of entire markers and are astute at portfolios and developers.” IAM Patent 1000 recognized Ryan Marshall as running the life science-oriented patent practice in Brinks’ Utah office. They believe that he “thinks carefully about the commercial objectives to be served by the assets he obtains,” and has immense knowledge about the patent system’s inner workings.

In Research Triangle Park, Allen Baum leads the North Carolina office. Baum has a “business head” and “leverages his litigation background and technical expertise in dispensing advice that is good for both short and long-term protection and market competitiveness.” New to the guide is Jennifer Fox, who has over two decades of pharmaceutical and biotechnology experience and significant experience in patent procurement, licensing and post-grant challenges.

IAM Patent 1000 notes that Jim Sobieraj just completed a six-year term as president and is now having a great transition back into the “cut and thrust of courtroom combat,” and calls out Laura Beth Miller for “always giving 110% in any engagement”. IAM Patent 1000 says Dominic Zandardino is “much more a trusted advisor than just a hired gun.” The publication notes that rising star Laura Lydigsen “is incredibly talented and always looking to add value.”

Ralph Gabric, IAM Patent 1000 says, “has long provided inspiring leadership to his colleagues and clients,” and is best known for his Hatch-Waxman Act Litigation. The guide said Gary Ropski is a “big-

picture thinker,” who is able to “see the fifth corner in the room.”

Continued praise for litigation comes to the Brinks Michigan office, which is known for its “technical proficiency and commercial chops” in the automotive sector. Making his debut to this guide is James Cleland, for his leadership in complex patent litigation matters. Steven Oberholtzer, similarly, is known for his passion for the automotive industry and “regularly sought out for his opinions on infringement and validity issues.”

According to the publication, Brinks provides “immense technical acuity” with its excellent roster of litigators all having degrees in science and engineering.

More information about the IAM Patent 1000 2018 is at <http://www.iam-media.com/patent1000>.

### **Brinks Gilson & Lione**

*Brinks Gilson & Lione, which celebrated its centennial year in 2017, is one of the largest intellectual property law firms in the US, and helps clients around the world to protect and enforce their intellectual property rights. Brinks Gilson & Lione’s more than 130 lawyers, patent agents and scientific advisors assist clients in all aspects of patent, trademark, unfair competition, trade secret, and copyright law. Brinks attorneys provide informed counsel with respect to innovations in a range of complex and valuable technologies, including pharmaceuticals, chemicals, bioengineering, industrial manufacturing, electronics and software, and medical devices. More information is at [www.brinksgilson.com](http://www.brinksgilson.com).*