

SHEEHAN PHINNEY

William P. O'Sullivan

Shareholder | Manchester, NH

Bill serves as Chair of the Intellectual Property Law practice group. He advises clients on intellectual property protection strategies with a particular emphasis on patent prosecution and related counseling, risk analysis, and mitigation. Bill has experience working with a wide range of inventions involving electrical, mechanical, optical, computer hardware, and computer software technologies. Recently, he has worked on protecting inventions in computer-aided design, engineering, and simulation, network security, artificial intelligence, neural networks, home security cameras and monitoring systems, instant self-heating and self-chilling product technologies and packaging, industrial sand handling equipment, internal combustion engines, cycling shoes, weightlifting and exercise equipment, gaming, and in many other areas.

Bill believes that building relationships is a key part of providing good counseling, and he draws on his years of experience advising innovative and creative people at all kinds of large, mid-sized, and small companies, start-ups, and educational institutions, and individually. He also supports intellectual property licensing, litigation, due diligence, and provides some trademark counseling.

Bill has spoken on a variety of intellectual property topics, with a particular emphasis on patent law, in a variety of business and academic settings. Prior to joining Sheehan Phinney, he was a Principal in the New York office of Fish & Richardson, P.C. Prior to entering the legal field, Bill spent several years working as an electrical engineer, primarily in the maritime industry, and then as a Senior Project Manager for Design and Construction at New York University Medical Center.

Practice Areas

- Intellectual Property
- Startups/BOOST

Admissions

- State of New Hampshire



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SHEEHAN PHINNEY

- State of New York
- State of New Jersey
- U.S. Patent & Trademark Office

Education

- J.D., Rutgers Law School
- Graduate-Level Engineering Coursework, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute
- B.E., Maritime College, State University of New York

Civic Involvement

- Swim Committee Member, Volunteer, and Competitor, Swim with a Mission, Inc.
- Member, New Hampshire Bar, Intellectual Property section
- Member, NH Tech Alliance, Product of the Year Committee
- Judge, NH Tech Alliance, Entrepreneur of the Year Program

Awards

- Rising Star by New England Super Lawyers®, Intellectual Property

Publications

- Client Alert: USPTO Transitioning To Electronically Granted Patents
- When Machines Invent (page 29)
- Inequitable Conduct and the Duty to Disclose, Belcher Pharmaceuticals, LLC v. Hospira, Inc.
- Business NH Magazine: Patent Tips for Entrepreneurs
- NH Legal Perspective: Patent Considerations for Startup Companies