

Press Release  
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## **Michael A. Cantor and Philmore H. Colburn II Honored with Professional Excellence Awards**

*The Connecticut Law Tribune* announced that [Cantor Colburn's](#) Co-Managing Partners [Michael A. Cantor](#) and [Philmore H. Colburn II](#) are winners of its Professional Excellence Awards.

*The Law Tribune* recognized about two dozen lawyers for outstanding service to the profession during their long careers. *The Law Tribune* received more than 70 nominations. The panel of judges considered not only success in the courtroom, but law firm and bar association leadership, advocacy roles, *pro bono* contributions and service on state and federal bar panels, among other factors.



Cantor Colburn's Co-Managing Partners, (l to r)  
Philmore H. Colburn II and Michael A. Cantor

As Co-Managing Partners of Cantor Colburn, Michael Cantor and Phil Colburn have grown the firm from a 10-attorney patent law firm in the 1990s to one of the largest full-service intellectual property (IP) law firms in the country today. And that growth continues under their leadership: Juristat, a patent research and analytics company, recently analyzed which US law firms had the most patent filings at the US Patent and Trademark Office over the last ten years and found that Cantor Colburn was the leader “by a significant margin.” Early on, Mr. Cantor and Mr. Colburn expanded the firm’s focus from

patent services to include a Trademark & Copyright Department and a Litigation Department, and practice groups offering substantial expertise in transactional services, pharmaceutical IP services, and services to foreign companies filing in the US, in particular with robust relations with companies based in South Korea and Japan. The outstanding growth and success of the firm is a result of their remarkable ability to lead the firm and manage their business in tandem.



**Cantor Colburn LLP**

*Intellectual Property Attorneys*

During this time of significant career success, Mr. Cantor has been a tireless champion of business growth and innovation in Connecticut. In 2007 Governor Jodi Rell appointed him to the board of the Connecticut Development Authority; in 2013 Governor Dannel Malloy appointed him to chair the board of its successor organization, Connecticut Innovations, the quasi-public agency charged with growing Connecticut's economy by making strategic capital and other investments that encourage the development of high-tech industries within the state, such as energy, biotechnology, information technology, and photonics. Mr. Cantor is on the board of the Connecticut Technology Council and Cantor Colburn funds its Innovation Summit annually- an event that brings together the state's start up community, service providers, and potential funders. Educated in chemical and materials engineering and law at UConn, Mr. Cantor has remained very engaged with and supportive of his alma mater, and currently serves on the board of the UConn Foundation. He is an adjunct professor at the law school where he has taught patent law for more than 25 years.

Mr. Colburn has developed a client base of Fortune 50 multinationals, as well as smaller companies, universities, and select high-tech startups. His counsel is informed both by unique technical insights gained from his years of professional experience as a design engineer at United Technologies Corporation and by strategic perspectives derived from 25 years' practice as an IP attorney. Taking a proactive, practical, and results-driven approach allows him to help clients define their needs and implement strategies that achieve their objectives. Mr. Colburn is a frequent speaker on IP issues, and active in industry associations, such as the Intellectual Property Owners Association (IPO), where he serves as Vice Chair of the Open Source Committee, and the International Trademark Association (INTA), where he serves on the Leadership Development Committee. Additionally, Mr. Colburn is an adjunct professor of Patent Law and Copyright Law at his alma mater, the Western New England University School of Law. Mr. Colburn earned an undergraduate degree in electrical engineering from Northeastern University and an MBA from the University of Massachusetts.

In 2015, Cantor Colburn was #3 for design patents, #7 for utility patents, and #7 for trademarks in rankings of US patent and trademark firms by the number of patents and trademarks obtained for clients each year, according to the blog [Ant-Like Persistence \("2015 Toteboards Published," February 28, 2016\)](#). No other law firm ranks higher in all three categories.

For more information about Cantor Colburn, go to [www.cantorcolburn.com](http://www.cantorcolburn.com).