

Cantor Colburn Attorneys Named to Lists of 2017 Connecticut *Super Lawyers* and *Rising Stars*

Hartford, Conn. – [Cantor Colburn LLP](#), one of the largest full-service intellectual property law firms in the country, is pleased to announce that seven attorneys from its Hartford office were named to the 2017 list of *Connecticut Super Lawyers* and *Rising Stars*. [Super Lawyers](#) selects attorneys using peer nominations and evaluations, combined with independent research. Only 5% of attorneys are selected to be *Super Lawyers*; only 2.5% of attorneys are selected to be *Rising Stars*. *Rising Stars* uses the same selection process as *Super Lawyers* with the additional criteria that candidates must be either 40 years old or younger or in practice for ten or fewer years.

The lawyers, named with the practice area for which they are recognized, include:

Connecticut Super Lawyers 2017

- [Michael Cantor](#), Co-Managing Partner, Intellectual Property
- [William J. Cass](#), Of Counsel, Intellectual Property Litigation
- [Andrew C. Ryan](#), Partner and Post Grant Review Chair, Intellectual Property Litigation

Connecticut Rising Stars 2017

- [Taylor Coon](#), Associate, Intellectual Property
- [Alicia Hayter](#), Associate, Intellectual Property
- [Krista A. Kostiew](#), Partner, Intellectual Property
- [David E. Rodrigues, Ph.D.](#), Partner, Intellectual Property

About the Attorneys



Michael Cantor

For more than 30 years, Michael Cantor's unwavering commitment to delivering the highest level of legal services at exceptionally competitive rates has fueled Cantor Colburn's strategic expansion from a ten-lawyer firm in the 1990s into a leading intellectual property law firm with more than 100 attorneys today. He is passionate about innovation, technology and economic growth. Governor Dannel Malloy appointed him the Chairman of Connecticut Innovations in 2013, and he is on the board of the Connecticut Technology Council, the Connecticut Historical Society, and the Greater Hartford Arts Council. He is a frequent speaker on intellectual property, entrepreneurship, and innovation, and belongs to many industry and legal associations. Mr. Cantor has received numerous awards for legal and civic leadership, including Best Lawyers (R) in America in 2016 and 2017, Managing IP's IP Stars in 2013-2017, Who's Who of Trademark Lawyers in 2013-2017, and World IP Review Leaders earlier this year. He is an American Bar Foundation Fellow, a Connecticut Bar Foundation - James W. Cooper Life

Fellow. He is a graduate of UConn's School of Engineering and School of Law and serves on the advisory boards of both schools. He has been an adjunct professor teaching Patent Law and Procedure for more than 20 years at the Law School and he was inducted into the Engineering School's Hall of Fame. He is admitted to practice before the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office and in Connecticut.



William J. Cass

William Cass is Of Counsel. For nearly 30 years, he has tried cases in state and federal courts involving technology. As Co-Chair of Cantor Colburn's Litigation Department for 15 years, he combined his extensive trial experience with his engineering education to present technically complex matters to judges and juries. His cases involved complex technology, including medical devices, circuitry, mechanical engineering, material science, chemistry, and computer software. Mr. Cass has spoken on topics concerning intellectual property and products liability internationally at EuroMold, IVA Sweden, Rapid (SME), and also at a White House Symposium on Additive Manufacturing. Mr. Cass has a B.S. in mechanical engineering from Worcester Polytechnic Institute and a J.D. from Western New

England University School of Law, *cum laude*. He is admitted to practice before the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, in Connecticut and Massachusetts, and to the U.S. District Courts and Appeals Courts for several states.



Andrew C. Ryan

Andrew Ryan is a partner in Cantor Colburn's Litigation Department and chairs the firm's Post Grant Review Practice. He is a trial lawyer with more than 15 years' experience representing plaintiffs and defendants in patent cases and other intellectual property and complex litigation matters. He also has significant experience in *inter partes* review (IPR) and other adversarial proceedings in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office. Mr. Ryan has experience representing clients from a wide variety of industries, including electronics, semiconductors, robotics, automotive, medical devices, pharmaceutical, and biotechnology. He has represented clients in federal and state court in bench and jury trials, preliminary

injunction proceedings, and in appellate matters. Mr. Ryan's trial experience includes cases involving a variety of technologies, including shape memory alloys, medical stent technology, restorative dental materials, and industrial safety products. He has participated in and led matters before the U.S. District Courts of CT, MA, NY, NJ, DE, FL, CA, TX, the Patent Trial and Appeals Board, the International Trade Commission, and the U.S. Court of Appeal for the Federal Circuit. He has a bachelor's degree from the Massachusetts College of Pharmacy and Allied Health Sciences and a J.D. from Western New England University School of Law. Mr. Ryan is admitted to practice before the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, in Connecticut and Massachusetts, and to the U.S. District Courts for the Districts of Massachusetts and Connecticut.



Taylor Coon

Taylor Coon is an associate with experience in several areas of intellectual property law. She concentrates her practice in a variety of technologies related to chemical engineering, including pharmaceuticals, polymers, and materials science. She has been involved in advising clients in all aspects of patent law, including patent application preparation, prosecution, counseling, and portfolio management. Ms. Coon has conducted patentability, freedom to operate, validity, and infringement searches; prepared the corresponding patentability, freedom to operate, invalidity, and non-infringement opinions, and has represented clients in all aspects of domestic and foreign patent prosecution. Her experience extends to trademarks, copyrights, trade secrets, and corporate transactions relating to intellectual property assets. She has a B.S. in chemical engineering and a J.D. from Villanova University. She is admitted to practice before the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, and in Connecticut, Massachusetts, Pennsylvania and the District of Columbia.



Alicia Hayter

Associate Alicia Hayter focuses her practice on the preparation and prosecution of patent applications related to mechanical engineering technologies, serving both foreign and domestic clients. Ms. Hayter also prepares opinions and does searching. Within the mechanical arts, she has handled a wide range of technologies, including aerospace and aeronautical components, engines, heating and cooling systems, and component manufacturing systems. *The Connecticut Law Tribune* honored her as a New Leader in the Law for 2017, given to only 25 lawyers in the state. This is the second consecutive year that she has been named a *Super Lawyers Rising Star*. Ms. Hayter has a B.S. in mechanical engineering from Villanova University and a J.D. from the University of Connecticut School of Law. She is admitted to practice before the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office and in Connecticut.



Krista A. Kostiew

As partner, Krista Kostiew concentrates her practice on various chemical, chemical engineering, and polymer related technologies including films, sheets, automotive applications, reactors, polymer precursors, photovoltaic cells and modules, polymer compositions and materials science, and various optical applications. She has also been involved with preparing and prosecuting applications as well as searching and preparing clearance opinions for various mechanical technologies. She has also conducted patentability, freedom to operate, validity, and infringement searches; prepared the corresponding patentability, freedom to operate, invalidity, and non-infringement opinions, and has represented clients in all aspects of patent prosecution. This is her second year being recognized as a *Super Lawyers Rising Star*. Ms. Kostiew has a B.S. in plastics engineering from the University of Massachusetts at Lowell and a J.D. from the University of New Hampshire School of Law. She is admitted to practice before the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office and in Connecticut.



David Rodrigues

Partner David Rodrigues, Ph.D. has 15 years' experience in patent preparation and prosecution, due diligence, opinion work, including non-infringement, invalidity, and right-to-practice as well as overall strategic portfolio development. Prior to becoming a patent attorney, he worked as a Plant Chemist for Armstrong World Industries and as a Pilot Plant Manager for General Electric Silicones and the General Electric Global Research Center. Dr. Rodrigues has drafted and prosecuted more than 600 patent applications; a large number of these were directed to polymer synthesis and to polymer processing. He has also drafted and prosecuted patent applications directed to optics, solar cells, photovoltaic cells, x-ray and electron beam devices, desalination, carbon dioxide capture and sequestration systems, wind turbines, textured surfaces for controlling bioadhesion, and so on. Dr. Rodrigues specializes in drafting applications that require a combination of material, chemical, mathematical, and/or mechanical skills. This is his second year being recognized as a *Super Lawyers Rising Star*. He has a bachelor's of mechanical engineering from Karnatak University, in Dharwad, India, a master's of science and a Ph.D. in materials engineering and science from Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, and a J.D. from the University of Connecticut School of Law. He is admitted to practice before the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office and in Connecticut.

About Cantor Colburn LLP

Cantor Colburn is the fastest growing U.S. patent firm over the last ten years (["Rainmaker Firms," Juristat](#)). Cantor Colburn was #4 for design patents (["2016 Toteboards Published," Ant-like Persistence](#)), #6 for utility patents (["Top Patent Firms 2016," IP Watchdog](#)), and #10 for trademarks (["2016 US Trademark Toteboard," Ant-like Persistence](#)). Cantor Colburn has been nationally ranked in these categories for more than a decade, and the firm's Litigation Department has also received national recognition. Cantor Colburn is one of the largest IP law firms in the country, with more than 100 attorneys and agents providing counsel to clients around the globe from offices in Hartford, Washington, D.C., Atlanta, Houston, and Detroit. Cantor Colburn is proud to be named one of the Top 100 Firms for Minority Attorneys ([IP Law360](#)).

With highly specialized knowledge and in-depth understanding of clients' businesses, the firm supports the technological innovations that are driving the world economy. Exceptionally well versed in a wide range of cutting-edge technologies, the firm's clients are in a broad spectrum of industries, including chemical, pharmaceutical, medical devices, manufacturing, consumer products, energy, software, telecommunications, entertainment, and more. For more information, go to www.cantorcolburn.com.

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