

Cantor Colburn Among Top U.S. Firms in Obtaining Software Patents for Clients

Hartford, Conn. – [Cantor Colburn](#) is among the top U.S. law firms in obtaining software patents for its clients in an environment that has been very challenging since the *Alice* ruling by the Supreme Court in 2014. According to data analytics company Juristat, Cantor Colburn is top 10 in both getting Alice allowances and overcoming Alice rejections.

In Juristat's Feb. 7, 2019 blog post, "[Which Firms Are Best at Overcoming Alice?](#)" by Tristan Gray-Le Coz, Cantor Colburn ranked second among high-volume filers for "Best *Alice* Allowance Rate," with an allowance rate of 68% (over 13% above average), and 10th among high volume filers for "Best *Alice* Overcome Rate," with 35% (almost 3% above average).

"*Alice* rejections have plagued patent attorneys, especially those defending inventions in computer software and medical diagnostic tests, for the last five years," [Philmore H. Colburn II](#), Co-Managing Partner of Cantor Colburn, said. "These high rankings in allowance and overcome rate are exceptional."

Alice rejections refer to the evaluation of claims in patent applications for subject matter eligibility under 35 U.S.C. 101 based on the identification of the claimed invention as a law of nature, natural phenomenon, or an abstract idea. Being that the patenting of any of these three categories would prevent future innovation and invention, they must be rejected. As a result of the *Alice* decision, for software inventions there is a fine, often unclear, line between an unpatentable invention that is directed to an abstract idea and a patentable invention that is directed to patentable subject matter.

As defined by Juristat, an *Alice* allowance rate is the percentage of applications that had one or more *Alice* rejections but were eventually allowed, and an *Alice* overcome rate is the success rate at overcoming *Alice* rejections on the first try. A firm can have a relatively low overcome rate, but a high allowance rate. Cantor Colburn's high rankings in both, and as a high-volume filer, demonstrates the firm's skill in this very sophisticated and complex area of patent law.

About Cantor Colburn LLP

Cantor Colburn is one of the largest intellectual property law firms in the country and the fastest growing U.S. patent firm over the last ten years ("[The 10 Fastest Growing Patent Law Firms](#)," 2018), 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. In addition to being



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recognized by *US News and World Report*, the Legal 500 USA, IP Stars, and *Super Lawyers*, Cantor Colburn has recently been ranked as:

- [#3 for U.S. Utility Patents, *IP Law360*, 2019](#)
- [#4 for U.S. Design Patent, *Ant-like Persistence*, 2019](#)
- [#8 for U.S. Trademark Registrations, *Ant-like Persistence*, 2019](#)
- [Top 100 Law Firms for Minority Attorneys, *IP Law360*, 2016](#)

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 leaders in a broad spectrum of industries, including software, computer science, telecommunications, chemical, pharmaceutical, medical devices, consumer products, manufacturing, energy, entertainment, and more. For more information, go to www.cantorcolburn.com.

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