

NYIPLA Post-Grant Committee

USPTO Presentation on the Patent Bar, PTAB Pro Hac Vice Admission, and LEAP

Tuesday, May 4, 2021

USPTO Speaker Bios:

Steven J. Fulk is a Supervisory Patent Attorney at the Patent Trial and Appeal Board. He is a graduate of the George Mason University School of Law, where he completed the Patent Law Track. He holds a Master's degree in Engineering Physics from George Mason University and a Bachelor's degree in Materials Science and Engineering from Penn State. Mr. Fulk previously worked as a Patent Attorney for the PTAB, reviewing *ex parte* appeals in the electrical technologies. Prior to joining the Board, Mr. Fulk served as a Primary Patent Examiner in TC2800. While an Examiner, he completed a career development detail at the PTAB. Before joining the USPTO in 2005, Mr. Fulk worked as a Quality and Reliability Engineer for Micron Technology.

Judge Amanda Wieker studied Biomedical Engineering at Vanderbilt University and began her career with the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office as a Patent Examiner. In that role, she examined patent applications for various mechanical technologies. Judge Wieker attended William & Mary Law School and, upon graduation, joined the law firm of Ropes & Gray, practicing patent litigation at various U.S. district courts, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit, the U.S. International Trade Commission, and the Patent Trial and Appeal Board. In 2014, she was appointed as an Administrative Patent Judge. Judge Wieker lives outside of Richmond, VA, with her husband Steve, and her two children, Liam and Owen.

Kimberly C. Weinreich joined the United States Patent and Trademark Office in October 2012 as an Attorney Advisor in the Office of Enrollment and Discipline. As an Attorney Advisor, Ms. Weinreich investigates grievances alleging misconduct by practitioners, evaluates applications and conducts moral character investigations of applicants requesting registration before the USPTO, and assists with outreach to USPTO stakeholders. Prior to joining the USPTO, Ms. Weinreich engaged in the private practice of intellectual property law with a general practice law firm in Washington DC, worked as a high school biology and research teacher in New York and was a research scientist in a neurobiology lab. Her private practice focused primarily on counseling clients on intellectual property matters, patent procurement and patent portfolio management, drafting patentability, freedom to operate, validity and non-infringement opinions, and licensing of IP rights. She received a Bachelor's degree in Biology from the University of Virginia, a Master's degree in Physiology and Biophysics from Georgetown University and a Juris Doctor degree from Fordham University. She is admitted to the New York and Washington DC bars.