

# Richard H. Shear

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## THOMPSON COBURN LLP

Richard Shear practices in the Firm's Intellectual Property practice.

### Distinction

Mr. Shear, a former Patent Examiner at the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office and previously the chief intellectual property lawyer at Monsanto Company, is a specialist in intellectual property law having extensive experience in patent prosecution, licensing and litigation throughout the world. He is highly experienced in all aspects of patent law, especially in the fields of chemistry, including agricultural and pharmaceutical chemistry, and biotechnology.

### Professional Affiliations

- **America Chamber of Commerce – Europe**  
Chair of Intellectual Property Committee (1986-1988)
- **American Intellectual Property Lawyers Association**
- **Association of Corporate Patent Counsel**  
(1997-1999)
- **The Bar Association of Metropolitan St. Louis**
- **Intellectual Property Owners Association**  
Board of Directors (1996-1999)

### Speaking Engagements

- Impact of In re Bilski on Biotechnology (June, 2009)
- Recent Law on Inequitable Conduct, BIO IP Counsel Meeting (May, 2009)
- Provisional Patent Application Pitfalls, Center for Emerging Technologies (November 2008)
- New Rules at the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Bar Association of Metropolitan St. Louis Meeting (November, 2007)

### Publications

- "A Researcher's Guide to Patents" *Journal of Plant Physiology* (July 2003)
- "Intellectual Property Law in the Protection of Plant Inventions" *Cornell University* (June 1999)
- "Intellectual Property" *Saint Louis University Law School* (1998)
- "Intellectual Property Rights in Agriculture" *World Bank* (June 1998)
- "Intellectual Property Law" *NABC* (February 1995)
- "Patent Damages" *Corporate Counsel Institute* (September 1996)
- "A Corporate View of PTO Chemical and Biotech Practice" *Intellectual Property Owner's PTO Day* (December 1994)
- "Patent Law Around the World" *American Chemical Society* (August 1994)



### Primary Practice Areas

- Intellectual Property

### Licensure

- Missouri (1975)
- Illinois (1974)
- U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit
- U.S. Patent Bar (1971)

### Education

- **Washington College of Law American University**  
J.D. (1973)
- **Washington University**  
B.S., Chemical Engineering (1968)

### Employment

- **Thompson Coburn LLP**  
Partner (2005-Present)
- **Blackwell Sanders Peper Martin LLP**  
Of Counsel (2000-2005)
- **Monsanto Company**  
Patent Attorney (1974-1999)  
Chief Intellectual Property Counsel (1997-1999)