



Shawn K. Leppo

Member • Co-chair, Intellectual Property

Harrisburg, PA

T: 717-237-5218

E: sleppo@mcneeslaw.com

Services and sector groups

- Intellectual Property
- Patents
- International Business and Trade
- Manufacturing, Warehousing, and Distribution

Shawn helps guide the firm's approach to innovation protection and intellectual property portfolio strategy. His practice spans all aspects of IP law, with a primary focus on patent matters, including filing and prosecution, enforcement, licensing, and risk-avoidance strategies.

He advises clients on strategic IP portfolio development and management, evaluates and prepares non-infringement and invalidity opinions, and structures and negotiates complex agreements involving patents, trade secrets, copyrights, and product development. He also provides counsel on IP aspects of diligence in mergers, acquisitions, and other strategic transactions.

Shawn helps clients align their IP strategy with broader business goals, maximizing innovation value while minimizing legal and competitive risk.

With an international practice, Shawn partners with an extensive global network of foreign counsel to manage intellectual property portfolios worldwide. He represents clients across a variety of technical and manufacturing industries, including advanced materials, medical textiles, food processing, and construction robotics. Drawing on his background in chemical engineering, he is well-versed in navigating complex intellectual property issues in these sectors.

Shawn is the co-chair of McNeese's Intellectual Property Group and is a member of the American Intellectual Property Law Association (AIPLA). He regularly writes and speaks on developments in patent law, artificial intelligence, and IP strategy in the context of business transactions. His work has appeared in *The Legal Intelligencer*, *JD Supra*, and publications of the Association of Corporate Counsel (ACC).

He serves on the executive boards of the Capital Region Economic Development Corporation (CREDC) and Scouting America's New Birth of Freedom Council. In 2025, he was recognized as a Trailblazer in Economic and Workforce Development by *City & State Pennsylvania*.

Representative experience

- International food manufacturer: Managed patent portfolio for client, including oversight of other outside counsel.
- Advanced materials company: Helped grow client patent portfolio from three to more than 70 patents granted worldwide over less than a ten-year period.
- International construction component manufacturer: Defended client against patent infringement claims brought by competitor, resulting in a favorable settlement.
- Outdoor products company: Defended client against a patent complaint alleging design patent infringement, resulting in the withdrawal of the complaint by the patent holder.
- International dental equipment manufacturer: Defended client from a patent claim brought by a patent licensing company pertaining to a method of manufacturing dental restorations, resulting in summary judgment of non-infringement.
- Agricultural machinery manufacturer: Asserted patent on behalf of client against competitor, resulting in a royalty-bearing license for client.
- Church product manufacturer: Asserted patent on behalf of client against a national wholesaler, resulting in the client obtaining a permanent injunction enjoining further sales of the infringing device.

Education

- Pennsylvania State University, B.S., chemical engineering
- William & Mary Law School, J.D., Order of the Coif

Admissions

- Pennsylvania
- Virginia (Associate Member)
- U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO)
- U.S. District Court for the Middle District of Pennsylvania
- U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit

Recognition

- Stand-Out Lawyer, Thomson Reuters, 2026
- *Trailblazer in Economic and Workforce Development*, City and State Pennsylvania, 2025
- *Select Lawyers*, 2014, 2016
- *Pennsylvania Rising Stars*®, 2008, 2010, 2011

Professional and community involvement

- New Birth of Freedom Council, Scouting America, Executive Board
- Capital Region Economic and Development Corporation (CREDC), Executive Committee, Past Chair
- American Intellectual Property Law Association (AIPLA)
- York Springs Lions Club

Speaking engagements

- May 2026 – IP Webinar hosted by Bucknell SBDC
- May 2026 – Presentation on IP law as an alternative career – American Institute of Chemical Engineers – Susquehanna Section
- May 2026 – IP Presentation to World Trade Center of Central PA International Trade Conference
- March 2026 – IP presentation at York College business accelerator
- Nov 2026 – IP presentation at Penn State College of Agriculture Innovation Scholars meeting
- March 2025 – IP presentation at York College business accelerator
- June 2024 – IP presentation at York County Economic Alliance
- March 2024 – IP presentation at York College business accelerator
- Nov 2023 – IP presentation at Penn State College of Agriculture
- October 2022 – IP presentation for State College PA, Ben Franklin Techcelerator
- March 2022 – IP presentation at York College business accelerator
- 2022 – IP webinar for Montana and Idaho State Bar IP Sections
- October 2021 – IP presentation for State College PA, Ben Franklin Techcelerator
- May 2021 – IP presentation for State College PA, Ben Franklin Techcelerator
- April 2021 – IP presentation at Penn State College of Agriculture
- March 2021 – IP presentation at York College business accelerator
- 2021 – IP webinar for Montana and Idaho State Bar IP Sections
- Feb 2020 – IP webinar for Montana State Bar IP Section
- 2020 – IP presentation in Somerset PA, Ben Franklin Techcelerator