Judge Sally Medley

Judge Sally Medley has been a member of the Trial Section at the Board since July of 2000. She received a BSEE from the University of Kentucky in 1988. In 1992, Judge Medley received an MBA from Florida Institute of Technology and in 1998 obtained a JD from the George Mason University, School of Law. She was admitted to the Virginia Bar in October 1998. Judge Medley was employed as a systems engineer for Lockheed and then for the National Aeronautics Space Administration (NASA) at the Kennedy Space Center from 1988-1993. Judge Medley began her career with the Patent and Trademark Office in 1993 as an examiner.

Lead Judge Grace Obermann

Lead Administrative Patent Judge Grace Karaffa Obermann is a graduate, with honors, of the George Washington University School of Law, and holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Chemistry from Rutgers University. Judge Obermann began her career as a bench chemist for FMC Corporation, designing and executing the organic synthesis of insecticidal compounds. After law school, she practiced as an associate at the law firm of Fish & Neave. She subsequently served as a Judicial Law Clerk to the Honorable Raymond C. Clevenger, III, at the United States Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit. Judge Obermann is a former Assistant Director of the United States Department of Justice, where she served as lead counsel for the United States in a diverse array of high-value IP infringement suits involving, for example, bombs, satellites, synthetic fuel, priority mail services, insurance products, and postage stamp art. Most recently, she was engaged in the private practice of law with the firm of Davidson, Berquist, Jackson & Gowdey, LLP.

Erika Arner, Finnegan Henderson

Erika Arner is a partner at Finnegan Henderson and chairs Finnegan's patent office practice. She focuses on patent office trials, patent prosecution management, client counseling, and litigation, with an emphasis on electronic technology, computer software, and the Internet. Ms. Arner helps clients of all sizes to establish and grow patent portfolios, align intellectual property strategy with business objectives, and adapt to the evolving legal landscape, including the America Invents Act (AIA).
Ms. Arner is a well-known authority in the area of business method patents and patent-eligibility jurisprudence. She represented the petitioners before the U.S. Supreme Court in *Bilski v. Kappos*, and has advised clients on issues related to patentable subject matter before the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit, U.S. district courts, and the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office. She has also served as lead counsel before the Patent Trial and Appeal Board of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (PTAB) in more than 20 post-grant review (PGR) and inter partes review (IPR) proceedings.

Ms. Arner has provided opinions on patentability, infringement, and validity of patents, and drafted or overseen the drafting of hundreds of patent applications for business method, electrical, telecommunications, and software-based technologies. She is a frequent author and lecturer on business method and computer-related patents and practice before the PTAB.

For more information about Ms. Arner, please visit: [http://www.finnegan.com/erikaarner/](http://www.finnegan.com/erikaarner/)

Scott McKeown, Oblon

Scott A. McKeown is a partner at Oblon and a member of the firm's Management Committee. He co-chairs the Post-Grant Patent practice group focusing on post-grant counseling, litigation and related prosecution issues. He leads the Post-Grant Patent team responsible for electronics, wireless communications, software and computer-related inventions and business methods.

Mr. McKeown handles all aspects of post-issuance patent proceedings at the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO). He specializes in administrative trials before the Patent Trial & Appeal Board (PTAB) as well as appeals to the Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit (CAFC). Having successfully navigated USPTO post-grant patent proceedings in which more than half a billion dollars was at stake, he is lead post-grant counsel to some of the world’s most well-known innovators. He provides his clients comprehensive post-grant patent counseling including advice on USPTO post-grant proceedings concurrent with complex International Trade Commission (ITC) and district court litigations.

*The National Law Journal* has identified Mr. McKeown as one of their 50 “Trailblazers & Pioneers” in the area of intellectual property law. *Intellectual Asset Management* has identified him as a “thought leader” and one of the world’s leading patent practitioners for adversarial post-grant USPTO patent proceedings. *Managing Intellectual Property Magazine* has named Mr. McKeown their 2015 “PTAB Litigator of the Year.” Mr. McKeown has been named one of
the Best Lawyers in America, and the *Legal 500* has honored him as a recommended patent attorney.

Mr. McKeown is a Professorial Lecturer in Law at the George Washington University Law School. He also is the editor of the well-known legal blog PatentsPostGrant.com. He lectures and writes extensively on post-grant patent proceedings at the USPTO and is also a member of the teaching faculty of the Practicing Law Institute (PLI). Mr. McKeown is the past Chair of the American Bar Association (ABA), Intellectual Property Law Section Committee 104 (Post Grant USPTO Proceedings).

A former electrical engineer, he has worked with a wide range of technologies, including computer software, wireless telecommunication protocols and network architectures, e-commerce applications, analog and digital signal processing, and consumer electronics. In the telecommunication arts, Mr. McKeown has worked extensively with IP routing and signaling protocols, ATM and wireless communication protocols. He also has a broad breadth of experience with OFDM systems, CDMA, TDMA, FSK, QAM and the 802.11 family of protocols.

In the consumer electronic arts, Mr. McKeown's practice has a strong focus in audio and video processing and display technologies, discs, signal compression and encoding schemes, recording medium formatting and construction, and many other related technologies.

For more information about Mr. McKeown, please visit:
[http://www.oblon.com/professional/scott-mckeown](http://www.oblon.com/professional/scott-mckeown)