BANNER WITCOFF

Mercedes K. Meyer, Ph.D.

She/Her/Hers

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Mercedes Meyer, Ph.D., represents leading life science and technology companies and maintains an extensive biotechnology and pharmaceutical patent management, prosecution, opinion, and due diligence practice. With a doctorate in virology and a degree in chemistry, Mercedes has a deep understanding of complex biotechnology and scientific research, which is key for advising life science clients on commercializing and protecting product innovations as well as performing diligence for investing in new technologies, particularly in corporate joint development projects. Mercedes advises on developing patent strategies, managing intellectual property rights, and making associated investments and acquisitions. Mercedes also handles patent reexaminations and inter partes matters.

Mercedes is consistently recognized by industry recognized publications such as Chambers USA, Managing IP “IP Stars”, and Intellectual Asset Management (IAM) Global Leaders, 300 Leading IP Strategists, and Patent 1000: The World’s Leading Patent Practitioners. In 2023, Mercedes was awarded the Intellectual Property Owner Association Carl B. Horton Distinguished Service Award, recognizing her as an individual who displays extraordinary leadership and dedication to promoting the value of intellectual property. Most recently, she received the 2025 Inspiring Woman of the Year Award at the Life Sciences Patent Network (LSPN) Awards. She is a Fellow and former Board member of the American Intellectual Property Law Association and currentl serves on the Board of Directors for the Intellectual Property Owners Education Fundation (IPOEF). . She currently serves as a Vice Chair of the IPO’s Pharmaceutical & Biotechnology Issues Committee.

Mercedes is passionate about helping the legal community find solutions to enhance lawyer mental health, increase diversity, reduce substance abuse, and promote neurodiversity in productive teams, and frequently speaks to organizations and corporate leaders on these topics. In 2025, Mercedes received the ACC Chapter Achievement Award for Most Innovative Programming Effort, alongside fellow panelists, for their neurodiversity and ethics presentation.

Mercedes co-authored Patent Ethics: Prosecution, a legal textbook on patent prosecution ethics, which is a “unique and well-organized tool for confronting practical ethical issues and conflicts of interest that increasingly arise in patent prosecution.”

Mercedes is a tireless thought leader in the life science community co-authoring the following articles: Killing the Golden Goose of U.S. Drug Innovation: Follow the Money for Life Sciences Intellectual Property Review and Regulation and Ethics in AI-Supported Health Care for Juriste International

Speaking Engagements

Panelist: Section 1498 vs. March-In Rights: Scope, Procedural Mechanisms, Practical Consequences, Litigation Developments webinar

Panelist: Data You Can Trust: Demystifying Data Quality and Privacy Law Compliance Life Sciences AI Summit

Panelist: Making Teams More Productive Through Neurodiversity, American Corporate Counsel

Co-chair of the 8th Annual Summit on Life Sciences IP Due Diligence and Panelist on Trade Secrets Due Diligence in Life Sciences

Presented at SWE25 (Society of Women Engineers) on the importance of IP to Engineers

Presented two panels at ACI's Biosimilars and Innovator Biologics Summit

Panelist: Navigating the Pre-Approval and Approval Process for Drugs and Biologics, ACI FDA Bootcamp

Panelist & Co-Author: Allyship, Mentorship, & Sponsorship Practical Guide: Demystifying the Three Key Professional Relationships, Intellectual Property Owners webinar

Panelist: Making Teams More Productive Through Neurodiversity, ACC Life Sciences Conference

Panelist: Looking Ahead: Surveying the Changing Life Sciences Policy Landscape and its Effect on IP Due Diligence, ACI Life Sciences IP Due Diligence

Education

Bryn Mawr College
1988, B.A., Chemistry

University of Texas Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences Houston and The M. D. Anderson Cancer Center
1994, Ph.D.

University of Houston Law Center
J.D.

Admissions

Bar Admissions

District of Columbia

Texas

Court Admissions

District of Columbia Court of Appeals

Superior Court of the District of Columbia

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office

Practices

Counseling, Opinions + Licensing

Patent Interferences

Patent Prosecution

Industries

Cannabis

Chemistry + Chemical Engineering

Life Sciences + Pharmaceuticals

Medical Devices

Accolades

- Recognized in LMG Life Sciences Americas Firms & Lawyer Rankings, 2025
- Named to the in 2026 LawDragon 500 Leading Global IP Lawyers
- Chambers USA – District of Columbia, Intellectual Property: Patent Prosecution, 2021-26
- Managing Intellectual Property "IP Star," 2026
- Inspiring Woman of the Year, Life Sciences Patent Network, 2025
- Intellectual Asset Management (IAM) – Global Leader, 2024
- Intellectual Asset Management (IAM) 300 Leading IP Strategists
- Intellectual Asset Management (IAM) Patent 1000: The World's Leading Patent Practitioners, 2026
- Intellectual Property Owner Association Carl B. Horton Distinguished Service Award recipient, 2023
- Legal500 – 2020

Affiliations/Memberships

Vice Chair, Pharmaceutical & Biotechnology Issues Committee, Intellectual Property Owners Association

Board Member, Intellectual Property Owners Education Foundation

Intellectual Property Owners Association
Association of University Technology Managers Women's Inventor Committee
American Intellectual Property Law Association
AIPLA Fellow

Recent News + Events + Related Publications

NEWS - 10.21.26

Robert Katz and Mercedes Meyer Named IAM Global Leaders 2027

EVENT - 09.08.26

Banner Witcoff Attends the 2026 IPO Annual Meeting

PRESS - 08.12.26

Seven Banner Witcoff Attorneys Recognized in IAM Strategy 300

NEWS - 06.24.26

Nine Banner Witcoff Attorneys Named in Lawdragon 500 Leading Global IP Lawyers

NEWS - 06.04.26

Banner Witcoff Secures Top Rankings in Chambers USA 2026

EVENT - 06.01.26

Debunking Biopharmaceutical Patent Myths: Evidence-Based Analysis for Innovation Policy

NEWS - 05.28.26

Banner Witcoff and Attorneys Recognized for Patent Litigation, Prosecution and Strategy in IAM's Patent 1000

EVENT - 05.11.26

Spotlight on Antibody Patent Prosecution in the EU and the US

EVENT - 03.02.26

Section 1498 vs. March-In Rights: Scope, Procedural Mechanisms, Practical Consequences, Litigation Developments

EVENT - 02.11.26

Data You Can Trust: Demystifying Data Quality and Privacy Law Compliance

EVENT - 01.08.26

Making Teams More Productive Through Neurodiversity

NEWS - 01.06.26

IPO Appoints Mercedes Meyer and Kirk Sigmon to Serve on Committees

EVENT - 11.25.25

Mercedes Meyer Co-Chairs 8th Annual Summit on Life Sciences IP Due Diligence

NEWS - 10.08.25

Three Banner Witcoff Attorneys Recognized by LMG Life Sciences

NEWS - 09.15.25

Killing the Golden Goose of U.S. Drug Innovation (Part II): Drug Pricing Myths

NEWS - 09.11.25

Killing the Golden Goose of U.S. Drug Innovation: Follow the Money (Part I)

EVENT - 09.02.25

Marguerite Smith and Mercedes Meyer Present at WE25

NEWS - 07.07.25

Banner Witcoff and 16 Shareholders Earn Top Marks in Managing IP's 2025 IP Stars

EVENT - 06.10.25

Mercedes Meyer Presents at ACI's Biosimilars and Innovator Biologics Summit

NEWS - 06.05.25

2025 Chambers and Partners Recognizes Banner Witcoff

NEWS - 06.04.25

16 Banner Witcoff Attorneys Recognized in IP Stars 2025

NEWS - 06.02.25

Robert Katz and Mercedes Meyer Recognized in WIPR Leaders 2025

NEWS - 05.29.25

Banner Witcoff and 14 Attorneys Recognized in IAM Patent 1000

NEWS - 05.28.25

Eight Banner Witcoff Attorneys Named in Lawdragon 500 Leading Global IP Lawyers

NEWS - 05.07.25

Life Sciences Patent Network Awards Mercedes Meyer Inspiring Woman of the Year

PRESS - 03.25.25

Regulation and Ethics in AI-Supported Health Care

EVENT - 03.17.25

Navigating the Pre-Approval and Approval Process for Drugs and Biologics

EVENT - 03.10.25

Allyship, Mentorship, & Sponsorship Practical Guide: Part 1 of 2 - Demystifying the Three Key Professional Relationships

EVENT - 03.05.25

Making Teams More Productive Through Neurodiversity | Mercedes Meyer Participates in ACC Life Sciences Conference Panel

NEWS - 03.03.25

Mercedes Meyer Selected Finalist for Three Life Sciences Patent Network Awards

EVENT - 11.20.24

Looking Ahead: Surveying the Changing Life Sciences Policy Landscape and its Effect on IP Due Diligence | Mercedes Meyer Joins Panel at ACI Life Sciences IP Due Diligence

NEWS - 10.10.24

IAM Global Leaders Recognizes Robert Katz and Mercedes Meyer

EVENT - 09.30.24

Mercedes Meyer to Speak on Continuations and Recent Patent Law Developments

EVENT - 09.30.24

State of the Union on Small Molecule Patents: Mercedes Meyer Presents at The Hatch-Waxman Practitioners Think Tank on Paragraph IV Disputes

PRESS - 07.08.24

Managing IP Quotes Mercedes Meyer on SCOTUS Ruling and IP Policy Challenges

NEWS - 06.06.24

2024 Chambers and Partners Recognizes Banner Witcoff

NEWS - 06.06.24

IAM Patent 1000 Recognizes 14 Banner Witcoff Attorneys, Patent Prosecution, and Litigation Practices

NEWS - 06.04.24

IP Stars 2024 Recognizes 17 Banner Witcoff Attorneys

EVENT - 05.16.24

The Interplay of Geopolitics and Patent Law for Enhanced Portfolio Management: Navigating Global Filing and Patent Term Strategy

EVENT - 05.14.24

Mercedes Meyer and Kamaram Munira Speak at Harrity for Parity Women's Patent Workshop

EVENT - 04.22.24

Mercedes Meyer Presents on March-In Power and Patent Rights for Strafford CLE Webinar

EVENT - 04.05.24

Mercedes Meyer to Discuss Remote, Hybrid, or 100% In-Office Work Models in Legal Profession

EVENT - 02.14.24

Intersectionality of Ethics, Mental Health & Diversity in Law and Practice: Mercedes Meyer Presents to Chicago Women in IP

PRESS - 02.12.24

Mercedes Meyer Featured in The Patent Lawyer's Women in IP Leadership

NEWS - 01.29.24

Banner Witcoff Elects Five New Shareholders in Chicago and D.C. Offices

EVENT - 01.17.24

Mercedes Meyer Joins IPO Panel: Biden Administration's Proposed March-in Framework

PRESS - 01.12.24

Mercedes Meyer Discusses US Patent Trends in 2024 with Managing IP