

Alisha Contractor Ph.D.

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Overview

Alisha is a USPTO-registered patent agent with more than five years of experience at leading law firms supporting global biopharma clients, along with over nine years of hands-on research in chemical biology and small molecule drug discovery. She serves as a strategic advisor, working closely with R&D teams to align intellectual property strategy with broader business objectives.

Alisha has extensive experience drafting and prosecuting U.S. and international patent applications, conducting freedom-to-operate (FTO) and IP due diligence, and performing patentability and landscape analyses. She also helps clients develop and manage robust global patent portfolios. Her technical expertise includes synthetic chemistry, process chemistry, medicinal chemistry, small molecule therapeutics, antibody-drug conjugates (ADCs) and peptide-drug conjugates (PDCs), oligonucleotide and RNA therapeutics (siRNA, ASOs and RNAi), polymers, and advanced materials.

Prior to joining Benesch, Alisha was a patent agent at Choate, Hall & Stewart, where she advised clients on patent strategy for small and large molecule therapeutics.

Credentials

EDUCATION

- University of California – Berkeley, 2018, Ph.D., Chemical Biology
- University of West Georgia, 2013, B.S., Chemistry; Minors in Biology, Math and Physics, *summa cum laude*

BAR & COURT ADMISSIONS

- United States Patent and Trademark Office