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LETTER FROM THE PUBLISHER



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DEAR READERS,

Welcome to Massachusetts Go To Lawyers, a feature we debuted last year to showcase leaders in the Massachusetts legal community by practice area.

For this list, we've chosen to focus on intellectual property lawyers. The attorneys featured here were all nominated by their colleagues and chosen by a panel from Lawyers Weekly. We expect that some readers will argue that there are some excellent lawyers who should have been included. Let us know! And please nominate them for future lists. Other practice areas, such as health care, tax, and trusts and estates, will be topics for future editions of Massachusetts Go To Lawyers.

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JOSEPH M. MARAIA

PARTNER, BURNS & LEVINSON
BOSTON

Burns & Levinson partner Joseph M. Maraia brings real-world experience to his patent prosecution and litigation practice at Burns & Levinson in Boston.

After high school, Maraia worked as a master electrician for a decade (he still maintains his license) before going to college for an electrical engineering degree.

Several years later, while working as an engineer, his father came up with an invention he wanted to patent. Maraia was bitten by the intellectual property bug and headed off to law school at age 33.

Nearly two decades later, he chairs his firm's IP group while maintaining one of the area's leading practices with a special focus on inventions with an electrical component.

Among his many achievements, Maraia spent nearly a decade helping client EyeGate Pharmaceuticals create its cutting-edge patent portfolio before taking the company public in 2015. In the process, he patented the company's proprietary medical device drug delivery system, which uses ions and electrical current to deliver drugs to the eye.

Maraia has also served as one of Raytheon's key outside attorneys since 2010, where his deep understanding of electrical circuits and computational systems has made him vital to securing the aerospace and defense conglomerate's patents.

Meanwhile, Maraia has handled the patent portfolio for global medical technology company Smith & Nephew's sports medicine group since 2012. In his role, he helps S&N's engineers with product design and development so they can create not only the best product in the market, but one that can be patent-protected.

Additionally, Maraia has overseen Segway's patent portfolio since 2010 while implementing a successful International Trade Commission strategy to go after international patent infringers.



ACHIEVEMENTS AND PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

Co-chair, intellectual property group; member, Executive Committee and Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Committee; member, board of trustees, Lasell College; president, SJA Maraia Charities