

Attorney at Law
Patent Attorney



ARA Tadashi

President, Japan Federation of Bar Associations

Concurrently with dealing with the damage caused by COVID-19 infections, Mr. Ara is committed to various issues including constitutional reform, protection of human rights, improvement of legal infrastructure, abolishment of capital punishment, education in the legal profession/number of lawyers, reform of the criminal justice system and gender equality.

[Brief Curriculum Vitae]

1979

Graduated from the School of Law of Tohoku University

1982

Admitted to the bar and appointed as a legal apprentice (34th)

1993 - 1995

Co-Chair, Committee on Consumer Protection, Japan Federation of Bar Associations (JFBA)

2006 - 2008

Director-General, Committee on Rights for The Elderly and Disabled, JFBA

2008

President, Sendai Bar Association

2009

Vice-President, Japan Federation of Bar Associations

2009 - 2010

Deputy Director-General, Headquarters for Expediting Reform of Criminal Detention System, JFBA

2009 - 2010

Deputy Director-General, Headquarters for Promotion of Court-Appointed Defense Counsel System, JFBA

2012 - 2013

Secretary General, Japan Federation of Bar Associations

2014 - 2017

Acting Director, Headquarters for Expediting Reform of System for Educating Judicial Officers, JFBA

FY2020 - 2021

President, Japan Federation of Bar Associations



SUEYOSHI Wataru

President, IP Lawyers Network Japan

Born in Tokyo. Graduated from Komaba Toho Senior High School and the Faculty of Law, the University of Tokyo. Registered at Daini Tokyo Bar Association in 1983 (the 35th Term).

Principal Roles & Positions at the iPLNET Japan:

April 2005 – Standing Director

May 2012 – Senior Director

April 2018 – President

At JFBA, Sueyoshi has held the following positions: Deputy Secretary of the Central Board on Promotion of Intellectual Property Rights Policies (June 2002 – May 2009), Chief Secretary of the Committee on Intellectual Property Rights (CIP) (June 2009 – May 2011), Chairperson of CIP (June 2011 – May 2012), Head of the Training and Business Development Project Team of CIP (June 2012 – May 2019), and Head of the Agricultural and Fishery Legal Support Team of CIP (May 2019 –).



HATTORI Makoto

Attorney at Law, JFBA Committee on Intellectual Property Rights

Graduate of the Department of Law, Faculty of Law, Keio University. Admitted to the Japanese Bar and joined Abe, Ikubo & Katayama in 1998. In 2001, he was seconded as Deputy Director to the Intellectual Property Policy Office in the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry under the Act on Officials with Fixed Term of Office. From 2002 to 2004, after completing an LLM at University of Pennsylvania Law School, he worked as a visiting researcher at the Max-Planck Institute for Intellectual Property. He was admitted to the New York Bar in 2003. While working as a professional lawyer, he has been fulfilling various duties including adjunct instructor at the Graduate School of Science and Technology, Keio University (2007 to 2018), adjunct instructor at the Graduate School of Law, Hitotsubashi University (since 2013), and visiting professor at the Graduate School of Law, Kobe University (since 2016). He was appointed Chairperson of the Intellectual Property Center of the Japan Federation of Bar Associations in 2021.

His areas of expertise include intellectual property litigation and contracts concerning patents, copyrights, trademarks and the Unfair Competition Prevention Law. He provides legal advice and consultation on international disputes in a variety of fields that utilize his extensive knowledge as a member of the New York Bar and his experiences studying in the U.S. as well as working in Europe.



SHIGETOMI Takamitsu

Attorney at Law, JFBA Committee on Intellectual Property Rights

[Affiliation]

Oh-Ebashi LPC & Partners

[Qualifications]

Attorney at law (Admitted to the Osaka Bar Association in 1999 (51st) and the New York State Bar in 2005)

Patent attorney (2005)

[Main areas of practice]

Intellectual property; dispute resolution; international practice; industries; corporate and M&A; risk management and compliance; life science, pharmaceutical and healthcare

[Education]

1997 School of Law, Osaka University (LL.B.)

2003 University of Washington School of Law (Seattle) in intellectual property (IP LL.M.)

2003 - 2004 Practical training on intellectual property litigation (mainly patent infringement litigation) at Fish & Richardson P.C. (New York, the U.S.) and Bardehle Pagenberg Dost Altenburg Geissler (Munich, Germany)

[Major positions held presently]

October 2019 -

Member, Standing Committee on Standards and Patents, AIPPI

April 2019 -

Outside advisor, Conflict of Interest Management Committee, Institute for Innovative Collaboration Promotion (Collaboration), Oita University

April 2016 -

Adjunct professor, Graduate School of Science, Technology and Innovation, Kobe University

September 2014 -

Adjunct instructor, Osaka University Law School

2013 -

Member, Intellectual Property Center, JFBA



YABE Kozo

Attorney at Law, Patent Attorney, YUASA and HARA

Attorney-at-law/Patent Attorney.

Partner of YUASA and HARA. Admitted to the Japan Bar and joined YUASA and HARA in 1991.

Graduated with an LL.B. (Chuo University) in 1985 and LL.M. (University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign College of Law) in 1994.

Mr. Yabe is a former visiting lecturer [Legal Clinic of Intellectual Property] of Chuo University Law School in Tokyo, Japan and former member of the Examiners Board for the Patent Bar Examination [Trademark] at the Japan Patent Office. Currently, Mr. Yabe is Secretary General at the Intellectual Property Center of the Japan Federation of Bar Associations, an outside Director of the Board at Nihon Tokushu Toryo Co., Ltd. listed in the first section of the TSE, a member of the Senior Director Board of AIPPI Japan, a Board Member of the Japan Trademark Association and adjunct professor [Doing Business in Japan course] at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign College of Law. His legal practice broadly covers transactions, dispute resolutions and consulting on intellectual property, various types of international transactions for inbound and outbound between Japan and foreign countries, personal data protection and data regulations, general corporate matters including M&A for advanced technologies and brands.



ITAI Noriko

Attorney at Law, Aoki, Sekine & Tanaka law office

Attorney at Law. Graduated from the Faculty of Law, the University of Tokyo. Registered as an attorney (Daiichi Tokyo Bar Association) in 2000 and joined Aoki, Sekine law office. Northwestern University School of Law (LL.M.) in 2008. Admitted to the New York State Bar in 2010.

Ms. Noriko Itai has dealt with consultation, contract negotiations and dispute resolution including litigation on various corporate legal affairs. She is particularly experienced in intellectual property (patent, trademark, copyright and unfair competition) disputes. She has been a member of the Japan Federation of Bar Associations Intellectual Property Center since 2015. She is currently a member of the Intellectual Property Council (2021-).

Member of the Japan Trademark Association

Member of ALAI Japan (the International Literary and Artistic Association of Japan)

Member of International League of Competition Law (LIDC)

**TSUJI Junko**

Attorney at Law, Patent Attorney, Tsuji Law & Patent Office

Graduated from the Faculty of Science, Kyoto University. After working in corporate research divisions, Ms. Tsuji was admitted to the Osaka Bar Association in 2000 and registered as a patent attorney in 2012. As an associate, she represented clients in and outside Japan in intellectual property infringement lawsuits and trials for invalidation in various technical fields. In 2015, she established Tsuji Law & Patent Office. Ms. Tsuji's areas of practice include dispute resolution with respect to intellectual property (such as patents, trademarks and copyrights), licensing and other contracts, and data protection and utilization.

In 2002, Ms. Tsuji completed Intellectual Property & Technology Law LL.M. at University of Washington School of Law (Seattle). From 2003 to 2007, she worked as an adjunct instructor of Management of Technology and Intellectual Property Course at Kyoto University Graduate School of Medicine. [Memberships]

2017-

Industrial Property Council, Japan Patent Office

2017-

Intellectual Property Center, Japan Federation of Bar Associations

2019-

Expert Panel on Promotion of the Healthcare Policy, Cabinet Secretariat

**IWAI Kumiko**

Attorney at Law, Anderson Mori & Tomotsune

Kumiko has dealt with both in domestic and cross border legal affairs concerning Japan, China, ASEAN and India, etc., especially handled many IP related cases such as protection, licensing agreements and consulting on IP, also providing consultation to build Open Source Software compliance.

Examiner of National Intellectual Property Management Skills Test

Commission of Software in China, OSS of Software Information Center (SOFTIC) – Member

Lecturer of Graduate School of Yamaguchi University

Keio University (J.D.) (2006)

Soga Uryu & Itoga Law Firm (Tokyo, Beijing and Shanghai Office) (2008-2011)

National Center for Industrial Property Information and Training(INPIT) – Global IP Producer (2011-2014)

Gatmaytan Yap Patacsil Gutierrez & Protacio (C&G Law, Philippines) – Secondee(2016-2018)



KUROSE Masashi

Patent Attorney, Kurose IP Management, President

Registered as patent attorney in 1977, Mr. Kurose visits national intellectual property offices, judicial courts and other administrative organs in Asian countries including China to see how each of these countries manages its intellectual property system. He also gives legal advice to Japanese companies on intellectual property disputes in Asia.

His current positions include part-time lecturer at the Department of Business Law at the Hitotsubashi University Graduate School of Law, Auditor of the Licensing Executives Society Japan (LES Japan), member of the Asian Patent Attorneys Association (APAA) Anti-Counterfeiting Committee, and member of the trade facilitation committee of the Japan Patent Attorneys Association (JPAA). In 2020, he gave a lecture on the advantages of administrative enforcement actions on counterfeit products in the Training Course on Anti-Counterfeiting Measures for Practitioners held by the Asia-Pacific Industrial Property Center (APIC).

Mr. Kurose is the author of “Intellectual Property Strategy in Asia” (Diamond, Inc.) and “Introductory Handbook on Overseas Anti-Counterfeiting Measures” (JETRO), coauthor of “Asian Countries’ Intellectual Property Systems” (Seirin Shoin) and “Commentary on Intellectual Property Court Cases in China” (Japan Machinery Center for Trade and Investment), and author and editor of “Intellectual Property System and Practice in Russia” (Research Institute of Economy, Trade and Industry).



TSURUYA Yuji

Patent Attorney, Principal, HARAJUKU SOGO

Professor. Yuji Tsuruya has been Principal of HARAJUKU SOGO (Patent Law Firm in Tokyo) since April 2017. Prior to that, in 2015 he was qualified as an IP Litigation Attorney, and in 2008 was registered as Patent Attorney. He left Japan Patent Office (JPO) in 2008. In the JPO, he was Director, Telephone Telecommunications, Fourth Patent Examination Department, Japan Patent Office (2006-2008), and was Director, Regional Policy Office, International Affairs Division (2000-2002). He also stayed in the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) (1997-1998) as a liaison officer between the USPTO and the JPO. He also worked as Professional Legal Officer, World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), Geneva, Switzerland (1990-1992). He was Visiting Professor, Graduate School of Innovation Management, K.I.T. Toranomon Graduate School (2005-2019). He received BA from Tokyo Institute of Technology, MA from Graduate School of Science and Engineering, Tokyo Institute of Technology and BA from Faculty of Law, Chuo University.