

## Courts



**Name: YASUNAMI Ryosuke**  
**Position: Justice, Supreme Court**

Education: Graduated from the University of Tokyo, Faculty of Law in 1981

Qualification: Appointed as a legal apprentice in 1981

Professional Career:

1983 Appointed as a Judge, and then, assigned to Tokyo District Court, Hiroshima District Court, Administrative Affairs Bureau, Secretary Division and Public Relations Division of Supreme Court, Kobe District Court

1993 Judge, Kobe District Court

1995 Judge, Tokyo District Court

1998 Director, Second Division, Administrative Affairs Bureau, Supreme Court

1999 Director, First and Third Division, Administrative Affairs Bureau, Supreme Court

2001 Director, Remuneration Division, Personnel Affairs Bureau, Supreme Court

2005 Presiding Judge, Tokyo District Court

2007 Director of Secretariat, Tokyo High Court

2010 Presiding Judge, Tokyo District Court

2011 Director General, Personnel Affairs Bureau, Supreme Court

2014 President, Shizuoka District Court

2016 Presiding Judge, Tokyo High Court

2018 President, Tokyo District Court

2018 President, Osaka High Court

2021 July 16, 2021 Justice of the Supreme Court



**Name: HONDA Tomonari**  
**Position: Chief Judge, Intellectual Property High Court**

Graduate of Faculty of Law, Kanazawa University

1987 Appointed judge (Osaka District Court)

2008 – 2011 Judge, Intellectual Property High Court

2011 – 2016 Presiding Judge, Tokyo District Court

2016 – 2017 Presiding Judge, Yokohama District Court

2017 – 2019 Chief Judge, Kushiro District/Family Court

2019 Presiding Judge, Sapporo High Court

2019 – 2021 Chief Judge, Sapporo District Court

2021 – 2023 Presiding Judge, Intellectual Property High Court

2023 to Present Chief Judge, Intellectual Property High Court

In addition to the above, judged cases at Naha District Court, Otsu District/Family Court, Obihiro Branch of Kushiro District/Family Court, Judicial Research Official, Supreme Court (Civil) etc.



**Name: SHIMIZU Hibiku**  
**Position: Presiding Judge, Intellectual Property High Court**

Graduate of Faculty of Law, Tokyo University

1988 Appointed judge (Tokyo District Court)

1992 – 1997 Attorney, Civil Affairs Bureau Ministry of Justice, Treaty Bureau, Ministry of Foreign Affairs

1997 – 2000 First Secretary, Embassy of Japan in the Netherlands

2001 – 2006 Counselor, Civil Affairs Bureau, Ministry of Justice

2009 – 2011 Chief of Branch Koriyama Branch, Fukushima District/Family Court

2012 – 2017 Presiding Judge, Tokyo District Court

2019- -2020 Chief Judge, Wakayama District/Family Court

2020---2023 Presiding Judge, Osaka High Court

2023 to Present Presiding Judge, Intellectual Property High Court

In addition to the above, judged cases at Asahikawa District/Family Court, Kawasaki Branch of Yokohama District/Family Court, Tokyo High Court.



**Name: MOTOYOSHI Hiroyuki**  
**Position: Judge, Intellectual Property High Court**

Graduate of Master's Program, Graduate School of Law, Keio University  
1991 Appointed judge (Chiba District Court)  
1993 – 1995 Judge, Osaka District Court (Intellectual Property Division)  
2020 to Present Judge, Intellectual Property High Court  
In addition to the above, judged cases at Ashikaga Branch of Utsunomiya District/Family Court, Osaka High Court, Tokyo High Court, Mito Family Court etc.



**Name: KIKUCHI Eri**  
**Position: Judge, Intellectual Property High Court**

Graduate of Faculty of Law, Tokyo University  
1993 Appointed judge (Tokyo District Court)  
2009 – 2012 Judge, Tokyo District Court (Intellectual Property Division)  
2012 – 2016 Judicial Research Official, Supreme Court (Civil/Intellectual Property)  
2016 – 2021 Judge, Tokyo High Court  
2021 – 2024 Presiding Judge, Shizuoka District Court (Civil Division)  
2024 – Judge, Intellectual Property High Court  
In addition to the above, judged cases at Yokohama District Court, Himeji Branch of Kobe District/Family Court,  
Dispatched to the Federal Republic of Germany to research the German Judicial System (1995-1996, 2001)



**Name: IMAI Hiroaki**  
**Position: Judge, Intellectual Property High Court**

Graduate of Psychology Department, University of Tokyo, Faculty of Law, Kyoto University  
1996 Appointed judge (Yokohama District Court)  
2001– 2004 Judge, Tokyo District Court (Intellectual Property Division)  
2007– 2010 Judge, Intellectual Property High Court  
2013- 2016 Judge, Tokyo District Court (Intellectual Property Division)  
2016– 2019 Presiding Judge, Niigata District Court  
2020– 2023 Presiding Judge, Tokyo Family Court  
2023 to Present Judge, Intellectual Property High Court  
In addition to the above, judged cases at Naha District/Family Court, Sapporo Family/District Court.  
Visiting Scholar, The French National School for the Judiciary, Max Planck Institute



**Name: IWAI Naoyuki**  
**Position: Judge, Intellectual Property High Court**

Graduate of Faculty of Law, Tokyo University  
1997 Appointed judge (Tokyo District Court)  
2006 – 2008 Judge, Gifu District Court  
2015 – 2016 Judge, Tokyo High Court  
2020 – 2022 Presiding Judge, Nagoya District Court  
2023~ Judge, Intellectual Property High Court  
In addition to the above, worked at Civil Affairs Bureau of Supreme Court.



**Name: MIZUNO Masanori**  
**Position: Judge, Intellectual Property High Court**

Graduate of Faculty of Law, Tokyo University  
1998 Appointed judge (Tokyo District Court)  
2002 – 2004 Official, Second North America Division, Ministry of Foreign Affairs  
2004 – 2006 Second Secretary, Embassy of Japan in the United States of America  
2020 – 2023 Judge, Fukuoka High Court  
2023 to Present Judge, Intellectual Property High Court  
In addition to the above, worked at Administrative Affairs Bureau of Supreme Court, and judged cases at Kanazawa District/Family Court, Takeo Branch of Saga District/Family Court, Yokohama District Court.  
Visiting Scholar, Southern Methodist University, School of Law. LL.M.



**Name: RAI Shin-ichi**  
**Position: Judge, Intellectual Property High Court**

Graduate of Faculty of Law, Tokyo University  
1999 Appointed judge (Osaka District Court)  
2004 – 2007 Judge, Tokyo District Court (Intellectual Property Division)  
2021 – 2023 Judge, Tokyo High Court  
2023 to Present Judge, Intellectual Property High Court  
In addition to the above, judged cases at Toyohashi Branch of Nagoya District/Family Court, Naha District/Family Court (Head Office and Okinawa Branch), Saku Branch of Nagano District/Family Court, Yokohama Family Court.



**Name: TOYAMA Atsushi**  
**Position: Judge, Intellectual Property High Court**

Graduate of Faculty of Law, Nihon University  
2005 Appointed judge (Tokyo District Court)  
2014 - 2017 Examiner, Environmental Dispute Coordination Commission  
2017 - 2019 Judge, Tokyo District Court (Intellectual Property Division)  
2022 to Present Judge, Intellectual Property High Court  
In addition to the above, judged cases at Niigata District/Family Court, Koriyama Branch of Fukushima District/Family Court, Ichinoseki Branch of Morioka District/Family Court



**Name: AMANO Kenji**  
**Position: Judge, Intellectual Property High Court**

Graduate of Arts in Literature, Waseda University  
2001 - 2002 Nomura Securities, Co.Ltd.  
2006 Appointed judge (Chiba District Court)  
2015 - 2018 Judge, Tokyo District Court (IP Division)  
2023 to Present Judge, Intellectual Property High Court  
In addition to the above, judged cases at Kurashiki Branch of Okayama District/Family Court, Hachinohe Branch of Aomori District/Family Court, Matsudo Branch of Chiba District/Family Court.  
Columbia Law School (LL.M., 2010)



**Name: NAKANO Yuji**  
**Position: Judicial Research Official, Intellectual Property High Court**

Graduate, Dept. of Electrical Engineering of Faculty of Science and Technology, Keio University  
1994 Joined Japan Patent Office (JPO), Assistant Examiner  
1998 Examiner, Patent Examination Dept., JPO  
2007 - 2009 JETRO Düsseldorf (Intellectual Property)  
2009 - 2011 Administrative Judge, Trial and Appeal Dept., JPO  
2013 - 2015 Director, Human Resources Development Dept., National Center for Industrial Property Information and Training (INPIT)  
2016 - 2018 Deputy Director, International Standard Div., Industrial Science, Technology and Environment Policy Bureau, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (METI)  
2019 - 2021 Director, Patent Examination Dept., JPO  
2021 - 2022 Senior Director, Patent Examination Dept., JPO  
2022 - 2023 Chief Administrative Judge, Trial and Appeal Dept., JPO  
2023 to Present Judicial Research Official, Intellectual Property High Court  
In addition to the above, Examination Standards Office, Legislative Affairs Office, International Affairs Div. of the JPO, Visiting Scholar, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign (Computer Science).





**Name: TAKENAKA Kenshi**  
**Position: Judicial Research Official, Intellectual Property High Court**

1995 – 2000 Patent engineer / Mechanical engineer, working for a gas appliance manufacturer  
2000 – 2022 Patent engineer / Patent and trademark attorney / Partner, working for an IP firm  
2003 Registered as a patent and trademark attorney  
2005 Qualified as an IP infringement litigator  
2022 to Present Judicial Research Official, Intellectual Property High Court

## Ministry of Justice



**Name: KAWAHARA Ryuji**  
**Position: Vice-Minister of Justice of Japan**

**Education:**

1987 Bachelor of Laws (LLB) at Keio University  
1988 Legal Apprenticeship at the Legal Training and Research Institute of Japan

**Professional Experience:**

1989 Appointed as a Public Prosecutor at the Tokyo District Prosecutors Office, and then served at the Criminal Affairs Bureau of the Ministry of Justice (MOJ), Minister's Secretariat of the MOJ, etc.  
2014 Director of the Criminal Affairs Department, Tokyo District Public Prosecutors Office  
2016 Director of the Criminal Affairs Department, Tokyo High Public Prosecutors Office  
2017 Chief Prosecutor of the Akita District Public Prosecutors Office  
2018 Public Prosecutor of the Supreme Public Prosecutors Office  
2019 Deputy Vice-Minister of Justice, Minister's Secretariat, Ministry of Justice  
2020 Director-General of the Criminal Affairs Bureau, Ministry of Justice  
Jan. 2023 to present Vice-Minister of Justice of Japan

## Attorneys



**Name: FUCHIGAMI Reiko**  
**Position: President, Japan Federation of Bar Associations**

While promoting the enhance the manpower and material resources of family courts, she also promotes gender equality and is working towards the realization of a selective separate surname system for married couples. She is also involved in the support of survivors and reconstruction efforts in disaster-stricken areas, the adoption of IT in civil trial procedures, and the reform of Japan's criminal justice system.

**Background**

1977 Graduated from Hitotsubashi University Faculty of Law  
1983 Admitted as an attorney (35th Legal Training and Research Course)  
2005–2006, 2008–2012 Deputy Chairman of the Legal Counselling Centers of the Japan Federation of Bar Associations  
2011–2015, 2017–2018 Great East Japan Earthquake Nuclear Power Plant Accident Countermeasure Headquarters Committee Member  
2012–2014 Director of the Japan Legal Support Center Promotion Headquarters Secretariat  
2014–2015  
2016–2019, 2022–2024 Deputy General Manager of the Japan Legal Support Center Promotion Headquarters  
2017 President of Tokyo Bar Association  
Vice President of the Japan Federation of Bar Associations  
2017–2018 Deputy General Manager of the Emergency Countermeasure Headquarters for Maintaining Legal Training and Research Benefits  
2017–2019 Deputy General Manager of the Legal Professional Training System Reform Headquarters  
2019–2020 Acting General Manager of the Comprehensive Legal Support Headquarters  
2020 and 2021 Secretary-General of the Japan Federation of Bar Associations  
2024 and 2025 President of the Japan Federation of Bar Associations



**Name: HAYASHI Izumi**  
**Position: President, IP Lawyers Network Japan**

Born in Tokyo. Graduated from the Faculty of Law, Waseda University. Registered at Tokyo Bar Association in 1987 after working as a prosecutor in the District Public Prosecutor's Office (the 38th Term). Director of Japan Wheelchair Tennis Association, Acting Chair of the Council for Promotion of Regulatory Reform

Principal Roles & Positions at the IPLNET Japan:  
April 2005 – Chief Secretary  
May 2018 – Senior Director  
May 2023 – President

At JFBA, Hayashi has held the following positions: Deputy Secretary of the Central Board on Promotion of Intellectual Property Rights Policies (June 2009 – May 2011), Chief Secretary of the Committee on Intellectual Property Rights (CIP) (June 2011 – May 2012) and Chairperson of CIP (June 2012 – May 2013) and Deputy Chairperson of CIP (June 2013 –).



**Name: SAGARA Yuriko**  
**Position: Attorney at Law, Partner, Nakamura & Partners**

Ms. Yuriko Sagara is a partner at Nakamura & Partners. In 1999, she obtained Bachelor of Law at the University of Tokyo and was admitted to the Daini Tokyo Bar Association. In 2008, she obtained the Master of Laws (LLM) at Duke University School of Law and was admitted to the New York State Bar in 2010.

Her main areas of practice include consultation for domestic and international contracts on intellectual properties (IP), as well as patent, design, trademark, copyright and trade secret infringement cases. She also handles domestic and international trademark application services to support anti-counterfeiting measures and licensing in business. She has been a member of the Copyright Committee of the Asian Patent Attorneys Association (APAA) since 2002, working together with lawyers and patent lawyers from various countries.

She has been a member of the JFBA Intellectual Property Center since 2017 and serves as a chair in 2024.



**Name: HATTORI Makoto**  
**Position: Vice Chairperson of Intellectual Property Center of the Japan Federation**

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 Chairperson of the Intellectual Property Center of the Japan Federation of Bar Associations (2021 to 2022).

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.

## Overseas Guests

### (Court Part)



**Name: Klaus Grabinski**

**Position: President, the Court of Appeal of the Unified Patent Court**

Dr Klaus Grabinski is President of the Court of Appeal of the Unified Patent Court since November 2022. Before, as Justice in the Federal Court of Justice (Bundesgerichtshof), he was allocated to the 10th Civil Division (X. Zivilsenat) which has, inter alia, jurisdiction in patent dispute matters from 2009 to 2020 and from June 2020 as Deputy Presiding Justice of the Division. Prior to joining the Federal Court of Justice, he was, inter alia, Judge at the Düsseldorf Higher Regional Court and Presiding Judge of a Patent Litigation Division at the Düsseldorf Regional Court.

He studied law at the Universities of Trier, Geneva, and Cologne. He worked as an assistant at the University of Trier where he was awarded his Doctor of Law in 1991. He was an external legally qualified member of the EPO Enlarged Board of Appeal.



**Name: Anne Marie Verschuur**

**Position: Partner, DE BRAUW BLACKSTONE WESTBROEK**

Anne Marie Verschuur has a broad IP practice with a particular focus on technology and patents. A member of De Brauw's UPC team, she is a registered UPC representative and regularly represents clients in technology-driven matters, ranging from patent infringement/invalidity actions (including FRAND), trade secret disputes and other tech/IP-related conflicts, to transactional work. She also assists her clients in design, trademark and copyright matters as well as on green claims.

Anne Marie is an active member of several IP associations, including the International Association for the Protection of Intellectual Property (AIPPI – former member of the international board as Reporter General; current president of the Dutch board; Member of Honour); the European Patent Lawyers Association (EPLAW); the International Trademark Association (INTA – member of its Famous and Well-Known Marks Committee); and the Dutch Association of Intellectual Property Litigators (VIEPA). She has also co-authored a leading Dutch IP handbook and is a member of the editorial board of a national IP journal.



**Name: Christof Augenstein**

**Position: Partner, KATHER AUGENSTEIN**

Dr. Christof Augenstein has been active as a litigator for almost 20 years and became a Certified Specialist in Intellectual Property in 2007. He enforces intellectual property rights such as patents, trademarks, and designs in litigation. He is a regular speaker on national and international forums. His speaking engagements for enforcing standards-essential include the German Association of Intellectual Property Experts (VPP), IAM, or IP Watchdog.

Dr. Augenstein is the author and editor of various legal commentaries about procedural aspects of the enforcement of intellectual property rights and the newly established Unified Patent Court (UPC). He is the co-publisher of an international commentary with other European litigators, the author of the Beck-Online Commentary on the UPC Agreement, and the co-author of an international commentary project with appointed UPC judges.

He regularly holds seminars for the UPC at the German Association of Intellectual Property Experts (VPP) and at the Center for International Intellectual Property Studies (CEIPI) at the University of Strasbourg/France, where he is also involved in training judges.

He is the Chair of the Standing Committee for Unitary Patents/Unified Patent Court and a member of the Standing Committee on Enforcement at the AIPPI (International Association for the Protection of Intellectual Property).

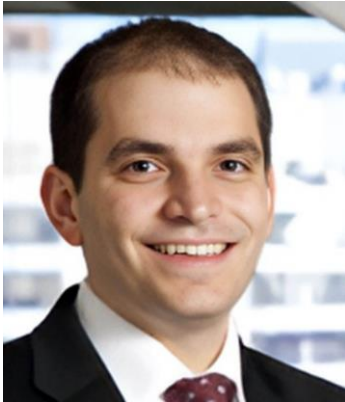


**Name: Jennifer Choe-Groves**

**Position: Federal Judge, U.S. Court of International Trade**

JUDGE JENNIFER CHOE-GROVES is a federal judge on the United States Court of International Trade in New York. She has practiced law for 30 years. Prior to her appointment to the Court, Judge Choe-Groves was in private practice specializing in intellectual property litigation and international trade policy. She also worked in the White House on intellectual property matters. Judge Choe-Groves serves on the Committee on International Judicial Relations, Judicial Conference of the United States, pursuant to an appointment by the Chief Justice of the U.S. Supreme Court. Judge Choe-Groves handles litigation cases involving international trade, intellectual property, and a variety of other civil matters.

Education: Princeton University, A.B.; Rutgers School of Law-Newark, J.D.; Columbia Law School, LL.M.; Juilliard School, Piano and Composition, Pre-College.



**Name: Fadi N. Kiblawi**

**Position: Partner, Sughrue Mion, PLLC**

Graduate of the University of Michigan and George Washington University Law School

2006 – 2009 Associate Attorney, Stein, McEwen & Bui, LLP (Washington DC)

2010 – 2015 Associate Attorney, Sughrue Mion, PLLC (Washington DC)

2016 – 2024 Partner, Sughrue Mion, PLLC (Washington DC)

2019 to Present Foreign Law Consultant, Sughrue Mion (Tokyo)



**Name: David Albagli**

**Position: Local Partner, White & Case LLP**

Graduate of Princeton University (Chemical Engineering, B.S.E.); Massachusetts Institute of Technology (Chemistry, Ph.D.); Post-Doctoral Fellow, Mitsubishi Chemical Corp., Yokohama; University of California Hastings Law School (J.D.)

1995 – 2000 Chief Technology Officer, NAXCOR, Inc.

2000 – 2004 Chief Technology Officer, ACLARA, Inc.

2006 Judicial Extern to the Honorable Charles R. Breyer, Northern District of California

2008 – 2016 Finnegan, Farabow, Garrett & Dunner LLP, Palo Alto and Tokyo Offices

2016 to Present Local Partner, White & Case LLP, Tokyo Office





**Name: James Mellor**

**Position: Justice, Chancery Division and the Patents Court, the High Court of England & Wales**

Mr Justice Mellor, Judge of the High Court, Chancery Division and the Patents Court  
Mr Justice Mellor became a Judge in the High Court of England & Wales, assigned to the Chancery Division, in February 2021, after a long career as an IP barrister at the leading IP set at 8, New Square in Lincoln's Inn, where latterly he was Head of Chambers. James was called to the Bar of England & Wales in 1986, having emerged from two periods at King's College, Cambridge studying Engineering and then Law (1st). As an engineer he worked for varying periods in the UK, France, Germany, Iraq, Somalia and the Congo. Combining his engineering background with law led him into the field of intellectual property law practising as a barrister for some 34 years at 8, New Square (the chambers of Robin Jacob, Hugh Laddie, David Kitchin, amongst others), the last 15 years as a QC before becoming a Judge of the Chancery Division and the Patents Court in February 2021.

As a barrister, James had a wide-ranging practice covering all areas of IP but also contract cases with an IP or technical element. In addition to the traditional diet of patent cases, he had significant experience in the CJEU and some in General Court proceedings, in references or appeals relating to trade marks and copyright.

Since becoming a Judge, James has spent the majority of his time trying Patent cases, including the FRAND trial in *Interdigital v Lenovo*, but has also undertaken the wide range of work in the Chancery Division of the High Court.



**Name: Zoë Butler**

**Position: Partner, Powell Gilbert**

Zoë Butler is a partner at Powell Gilbert, a specialist European IP firm based in London. She is a UK Solicitor Advocate, Irish Solicitor and UPC Representative. She is particularly known for her expertise in advising clients in complex patent disputes, often with an international element, and recently has acted in matters relating to technologies as diverse as telecoms, electronics/software, video-codec, robotics, oil & gas, medical devices, pharmaceuticals and biotechnology. Zoë also advises on related issues arising from international technology standards, such as patent pools, licensing and FRAND, and counsels on patent litigation strategy, including pharmaceutical lifecycle management, with a wealth of experience in providing freedom to operate and due diligence advice. In addition to representing clients before the UK courts (including up to the Supreme Court), she has experience of European Patent Office opposition proceedings, and has represented clients in arbitration proceedings and mediations relating to technology contract disputes. Zoë has been involved in many multi-jurisdictional disputes, working with advisors from across Europe, North America, China, Korea, Japan and Australia, and, in many instances, has taken a role in coordinating such litigation.



**Name: Alex Wilson**

**Position: Partner, Powell Gilbert**

Alex Wilson is a partner at Powell Gilbert, a specialist European IP firm based in London. He is a UK Solicitor Advocate, Irish Solicitor and UPC Representative. He guides clients from a wide range of industries on strategies for exploiting and enforcing of intellectual property rights across Europe and other major markets. He has an international practice, particularly in matters of a multi-jurisdictional character, appearing regularly before the English courts and as supervising counsel in most European and Far Eastern patent courts. Alex's scientific background has put him in a good position to handle highly technical and standards related patent cases. He has acted in matters relating to technologies as diverse as speech coding, microcontrollers, GUIs, semi-conductors, graphics processing, medical devices, and mobile phones. Alex's fluency in French and German allowed him to spend periods working in leading law firms in Paris and Düsseldorf. He is joint editor of an international commentary on the Rules of Procedure of the Unified Patent Court.