



Charles E. Van Horn

Charlie Van Horn chairs Finnegan's patent prosecution section and has a strong working knowledge of the specialized areas of patent reexamination, patent term extension, and procedures under the Patent Cooperation Treaty.

Mr. Van Horn joined the firm after a 31-year career at the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO). During his tenure, he served in a variety of leadership positions relating to patent policy and practice. He served as the director of the patent examining group responsible for inventions in organic chemistry and biotechnology. While deputy solicitor, Mr. Van Horn argued cases in the federal courts. In his position as deputy assistant commissioner, he established the policy and practice for examining patent applications. Just prior to joining the firm, Mr. Van Horn assisted in developing the legislation and implementing the regulations and procedures for the patent-related changes mandated by the GATT-TRIPs agreement.