

CANDIDATE BACKGROUND INFORMATION
All responses will be made available to the public

Name

Brian S. Pickell

Name as it will Appear on Ballot

Brian S. Pickell

Community in which You Live

Grand Blanc Township

Education

Michigan State University – Detroit College of Law

East Lansing, Michigan

Juris Doctorate

May 1997

- Concurrently took high-level (e.g., mostly 400-, 500-, and 600-level graduate) physics and mathematics courses while full-time law-school student

Wayne State University

Detroit, Michigan

Satisfied Physics Department Criteria for Bachelor of Science in Physics

May 1998

- Member of “Society of Physics Students”

University of Michigan

Ann Arbor, Michigan

Bachelor of Arts in Economics

April 1993

Employment Record

Michael E. Thomas, P.C.

Flint, Michigan

September 2015 – Present

Elder Law, Estate Planning, Medicaid Planning, Probate, & Wartime-Veterans’ Benefits

- Elder-abuse prevention and remediation
- Assisting in signings of estate-planning-related documents
- Protection of assets for seniors
- Federal estate tax and capital gains
- Caregiving-services agreements and promissory notes
- Charitable giving
- Deeds, irrevocable trusts, powers of attorney, revocable living trusts, and wills
- Distribution of assets
- Predator protection for elderly

Cantor Colburn LLP

Troy, Michigan

June 2013 – August 31, 2015

Intellectual-Property Attorney and Counselor

Patents, Trademarks, Copyrights, Licensing, and Technology Transfer

- Prepared and prosecuted domestic and foreign patent applications for mechanical, electro-mechanical, software, and telecommunications technologies
 - Emphasis upon inventions related to automotive steering and exhaust systems and aerospace, elevator, and telecommunications systems
- Prepared and prosecuted domestic and foreign trademark-registration applications
 - Emphasis upon managing trademark portfolio for global corporation (including preparation, filing, and prosecution of over two-hundred domestic and foreign trademark-registration applications)

Bliss McGlynn, P.C.

Troy, Michigan

October 1998 – June 2013 (associate attorney since January 1, 2000)

Intellectual-Property Attorney and Counselor

Patents, Trademarks, Copyrights, Trade Secrets, Licensing, Technology Transfer, and Litigation

- Prepared and prosecuted domestic and foreign patent applications for mechanical, electro-mechanical, and software technologies
 - Emphasis upon inventions related to automotive brake, clutch, and windshield-wiper systems
- Prepared and prosecuted domestic and foreign trademark-registration applications
 - Emphasis upon assisting in creation and maintenance of trademark portfolio and resolving trademark-related issues for Major League Baseball franchise and National Hockey League franchise
- Prepared and prosecuted copyright-claim-registration applications
 - Emphasis upon assisting in resolving copyright-related issues for Major League Baseball franchise and National Hockey League franchise
- Conducted clearance and infringement investigations and negotiated and prepared agreements and written opinions attendant to acquisition and defense of all forms of intellectual-property rights
- Conducted litigation-related research and prepared litigation-related documents in connection with all forms of intellectual-property rights

O'Connor, DeGrazia & Tamm, P.C.

Bloomfield Hills, Michigan

1996 – 1997

Legal Clerkship

- Assisted in litigation in areas of municipal law, land-use law, employment law, general liability law, and medical-malpractice-defense law

U.S. District Court for Eastern District of Michigan/Southern Division

Detroit, Michigan

May 1996 – August 1996

Legal Externship

- Conducted research and prepared reports and recommendations for social-security cases, prisoners' civil-rights cases, and habeas-corpus cases

Judicial Offices Held

First time seeking an elected judicial position

Public Offices Held

First time seeking public office

Professional Affiliations

State Bar of Michigan

Active Member in Good Standing

December 1997 – Present

Michigan Bar No.: P57,411

Intellectual Property Law Section of State Bar of Michigan

2000 - Present

- Member of Council (2002 – 2003)

American Bar Association/Section of Intellectual Property Law

1997 – 2003

Membership No.: 01057286

Michigan Intellectual Property Law Association

January 2002 – Present

Elder Law and Disability Rights Section of State Bar of Michigan

2016 - Present

Genesee County Bar Association

October 2017 – Present

Court Admission

State Courts of Michigan

1997 – Present

U.S. District Court for Eastern District of Michigan

1997 – Present

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office

June 1999 – Present

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office Registration No.: 45,013

Published Writings

Sampling of U.S. Patents Written by Me (disclosure of patent will allow public to make and use invention described and shown in patent upon expiration of term of patent):

- 1) U.S. Patent 9,586,068 Entitled “Wildfire-Control-and-Containment System” Issued on March 7, 2017 to Michael D. Wiley (Mt. Morris, Michigan);
- 2) U.S. Patent 9,214,719 Entitled “Handheld Device and Method of Manufacture Thereof” Issued on December 15, 2015 to Blackberry Limited;
- 3) U.S. Patent 8,173,882 Entitled “Tremolo Assembly of Stringed Instrument” Issued on May 8, 2012 to William J. Hannapel (Richland, Michigan);
- 4) U.S. Patent 8,167,351 Entitled “Seat/Flatbed/Drop-in-Container Assembly for Cart” Issued on May 1, 2012 to Donald J. Plowman (Vassar, Michigan); and
- 5) U.S. Patent 7,125,068 Entitled “Transfer Trailer” Issued on October 24, 2006 to Merle K. Waldorf (Clio, Michigan).

Practice History

- A. Over the course of my career, I have litigated regularly and appeared in court occasionally.
- B. At least seventy-five percent of my litigation experience has been in federal court and before federal administrative-law judges, and the remainder has been in state court.
- C. At least eighty-five percent of my litigation experience has been civil, and the remainder has been criminal.
- D. I have been involved in litigation in approximately forty-five cases, serving as associate counsel in court and sole or associate counsel before federal administrative-law judges.
- E. A majority of the litigated cases in which I have been involved were set for jury trials.
- F. I have spent much of my career handling enforcement, infringement, and validity litigation for plaintiffs and defendants in the areas of patents, trademarks, copyrights, and trade secrets . . . with the litigants ranging from independent inventors, artists, and other creators and sole proprietorships to multi-million-dollar corporations.

Endorsements

Probate Court Judge Barkey
Circuit Court Judges Beagle, Behm, Bell, Gadola, and Newblatt
District Court Judges Bayeh-Haley, Latchana, and Conover
Former Circuit Court Chief Judge Ransom
Prosecutor David Leyton

Former Michigan Lieutenant Governor John Cherry
UAW Region 1-D
AFL-CIO
Flint Area Plumbers and Pipefitters (Local 370)
GLS Building Trades Council
Iron Workers (Local 25)
Michigan Association of Police (MAP)
Police Officers of Michigan

Pro-Bono Activities

As I understand it, intellectual-property-law services are not within the scope of legal services provided by Legal Services of Eastern Michigan. However, for all residents of Genesee County, throughout my entire career, I have performed free of charge services preliminary and attendant to my preparation and filing of U.S. patent applications, U.S. trademark-registration applications, and U.S. copyright-claim registrations on behalf of prospective and existing clients (i.e., clearance searches; consultations; drafting of assignments, confidentiality or non-disclosure agreements, infringement and validity opinions, and licenses; etc.). I have also prepared and filed such applications at greatly reduced costs . . . even free of charge in several cases.

Disciplinary Action

None