



Sean Collin is Founder and Managing Partner of Growth and M&A Partners. For more than three decades Mr. Collin has specialized in advising companies and individuals on maximizing revenue and asset value from intellectual property globally. He has represented Fortune 500 companies, Inc. 500 companies, financial institutions, public and private technology and brand focused companies, non-profit organizations, and countries. Mr. Collin's expertise is in assisting corporations to build corporate assets and strategically supporting and negotiating for them in realizing the greatest value in national and international mergers and acquisitions. He has counseled a global array of clients to nationally and internationally protect and commercially leverage intellectual property and technology to create the greatest value on "exit". He is presently advising one of England's "crown jewel" technology companies on their multi-billion dollar acquisition and is presently also engaged as M&A Counsel on the sale of a global leader in functional health foods.

He was born in Silicon Valley, California and raised internationally. He was educated at the University of Otago in Dunedin, New Zealand (BCom. LLB (Hons) and at Georgetown University in Washington, DC, United States (LLM (Dist.) He has been called to the Bar in New Zealand, New South Wales, Australia, and in both New York and California in the United States. He has lectured at Universities, Institutes and Global Conferences in 20 countries on international law and business. He has lived and worked around the world and has completed legal matters in over 70 countries. He has been an accredited representative at the United Nations in both Geneva and New York. He is the founder of a software company utilizing Big Data and artificial intelligence in cyber-security and intellectual property management, and is a tenured academic. In 2001 he was selected as one of the top 20 under 40 lawyers in the state of California by his peers. He is an Honorary Naval Aviator with the United States Department of the Navy, and is an Honorary Colonel with the state militia of the state of Kentucky.



Sreekar Gadde, the Executive Director for BlueTree Allied Angels, leverages his background in engineering, law, and business to identify and analyze early-stage companies for potential investment opportunities. In addition, he assists management teams of early- and mid-stage companies in developing an IP strategy that complements the company's business strategy. Sree's work experience spans various fields including Artificial Intelligence (Edge Case Research, Aspinity, TalkMeUp, and Ariel Precision Medicine), medicine (Lindy BioSciences and CytoAgents), data analytics (BlastPoint), and consumer goods (Aeronics, Anglr, and Crafty Counter). Independent of industry, Sree works with companies to identify what differentiates them from their competition and determine what forms of IP provide them the best strategic value to protect that differentiation.

Prior to joining BlueTree, Sree worked as an IP litigator and an IP prosecutor at two top law firms, Ropes and Gray and Sterne Kessler, as well as Assistance Chief IP Counsel for Dynamics, Inc. In addition, he was a validation engineer and team lead for Intel's microprocessor design business unit.

Sree holds an MBA from Carnegie Mellon University's Tepper School of Business, a JD from The George Washington University Law School, a Master's and Bachelor's in Electrical and Computer Engineering from CMU, as well as a Bachelor's in Cognitive Science.

Beyond working with specific companies, Sree frequently presents at conferences on how investors can analyze IP Strategy and how companies can improve the efficiency of their IP spending by taking ownership of their IP strategy. Recently, he has spoken at the Giles S. Rich Inn of Court, the "IPforAI" conference, and the "2019 Global IP Strategy Conference."



Jason assists established technology firms, investors and entrepreneurs in a diverse array of transactional and intellectual property matters. Jason's legal and business consulting practices range from intellectual property, transactional due diligence, data privacy and other issues, with a particular expertise in intellectual property and venture capital transactions related to early-stage companies and academic institutions. He is a registered patent attorney with over a decade experience managing and prosecuting multinational patent portfolios.

Before his current practice, Jason spent time practicing in two boutique intellectual property firms, as well working inside the technology transfer office of a top NIH-funded research university. He was previously head of due diligence for BlueTree Allied Angels, where he led efforts for investments into seed and series rounds for technologies companies. He holds an MBA from Carnegie Mellon University and a JD from the University of Pittsburgh, and earned undergraduate degrees in engineering physics and music.



Robert Greene Sterne is a founding director of Sterne, Kessler, Goldstein & Fox P.L.L.C. in Washington, D.C. He has extensive expertise in AIA post issuance proceedings and concurrent patent litigation, USITC 337 investigations, Federal Circuit appeals, EU and China enforcement, reexamination, patent monetization and licensing, and corporate intellectual property best practices (CIPO and Board of Directors). He is a registered U.S. patent attorney and has spoken and written extensively on these topics.

Among many honors, he is the recipient of the Sedona Conference Award for Excellence in Advanced Legal Education (2004), the Sedona Lifetime Achievement Award (2012), and the 2012 Attorney of the Year “Good Scout” Award for his leadership in community service. He has been named one of the "Top Ten Legal Innovators in North America" by the *Financial Times* in 2015, one of “The Top 25 Icons of IP” by *Law360* in 2015, and an “Intellectual Property Trailblazer and Pioneer” by the *National Law Journal* in 2014. Additionally, Rob consistently receives rankings from several leading intellectual property publications, including *IAM*, *Managing IP*, *World Intellectual Property Review*, and *Super Lawyers*. Notably, Rob has been ranked in the elite *IAM Strategy 300* since 2009 and the *IAM Patent 1000* since 2013. He is editor in chief of *Patent Office Litigation* (2012) and *Patent Office Litigation, 2nd Edition* (2017) (Thomson Reuters).

Rob is counsel in more than 200 PTAB contested proceedings and has played a key role in precedent-setting U.S. case law, including: *In re Beauregard*, (Fed. Cir. 1995), *KSR* (2007), *i4i* (2011), *In re Jung* (Fed. Cir. 2011), *ETG* (Fed Cir. 2012), and *Hear Wear* (Fed. Cir. 2014). He has been at the forefront of software patent protection, having represented IBM in the precedent-setting *In re Beauregard* case that produced the 1996 USPTO software patent guidelines and delivered the seminal AI and Expert System Legal Protection presentation before the AIPLA in 1985. Sterne Kessler is ranked in 2020 as the 4th-largest US IP specialty firm and 293rd-largest U.S. law firm.