

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

BEFORE THE PATENT TRIAL AND APPEAL BOARD

MERCK SHARP & DOHME LLC,
Petitioner,

v.

THE JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY,
Patent Owner.

Case IPR2024-00623
Patent 11,325,974

**DECLARATION OF CAROLINE (GRACIE) KOONCE IN SUPPORT OF
PETITIONER'S UNOPPOSED MOTION FOR *PRO HAC VICE*
ADMISSION**

I, Caroline (Gracie) Koonce, hereby declare to the following:

1. I am a member in good standing of the District of Columbia bar (SBN: 90006888).
2. I have not been suspended or disbarred from practice before any court or administrative body.
3. I have never had an application for admission to practice before any court or administrative body denied.
4. No sanction or contempt citation has been imposed against me by any court or administrative body.
5. I have read and will comply with the Office Patent Trial Practice Guide and the Board's Rules of Practice for Trials set forth in part 42 of the Code of Federal Regulations.
6. I will be subject to the USPTO Rules of Professional Conduct set forth in 37 C.F.R. §§ 11.101 *et seq.* and disciplinary jurisdiction under 37 C.F.R. § 11.19(a).
7. In the past three years, I have not applied for admission *pro hac vice* in any proceeding before the Patent and Trials Appeal Board.
8. I am a patent litigation attorney with 2 years of experience representing clients in cases involving biochemistry, chemical and pharmaceutical innovations.

9. I am intimately familiar with the issues and subject matter presented in this above-captioned *inter partes* review proceeding. For example, I have extensively reviewed the above identified patent, its prosecution history, the Petition for IPR (including the invalidity grounds therein, and the cited references), and all exhibits filed in this case.

10. I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patents issued thereon.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 03/18/2025

/Caroline (Gracie) Koonce/

Caroline (Gracie) Koonce

Fish & Richardson P.C.

Email: koonce@fr.com

Appendix A



Caroline (Gracie) Koonce

Associate
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Overview

Caroline (Gracie) Koonce focuses her practice on patent litigation in the life sciences and pharmaceuticals sectors.

Gracie's legal experience includes researching and drafting memoranda and conducting legal research as a judicial intern for the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit. With a background in biochemistry, she is comfortable working with a variety of chemical and pharmaceutical innovations.

As a law student, Gracie served as alumni & sponsorship editor and staff writer for the *Pepperdine Law Review*, competed as a member of the Pepperdine Moot Court team, and earned an Intellectual Property, Entertainment, and Technology certificate as a Fellow of the Palmer Center for Entrepreneurship and the Law.

Outside of her practice, Gracie enjoys visiting museums, exploring new cities, and supporting the U.S. women's national soccer team.

News

September 25, 2023
Fish & Richardson Welcomes 2023 Fall Associate Class

Services

Litigation
Patent Litigation

Industries

Life Sciences
Biotech & Diagnostics
Pharmaceuticals

Admissions

District of Columbia (2023)

Education

J.D., Pepperdine University School of Law (2023) Alumni & Sponsorship Editor, *Pepperdine Law Review* (2022-2023), Staff Writer (2021-2022)

B.A. *summa cum laude*, Biochemistry, with minor in Spanish, Westminster College (2019)

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