

Patent application process

Legend

- Green for inventor actions
- Blue for attorney actions

Inventor documents invention and keeps it secret

Inventor does prior art search and estimates commercial potential

Initial consultation with patent attorney

Attorney review invention disclosure and inventor found references

Attorney provides written cost estimate for services and engagement agreement

Inventor decides on services, sends retainer check and signed agreement

Detailed inventor interview - inventor finalizes figs and description

Key novel featured identified by attorney/inventor

Professional Novelty search performed (optional)

Decision whether to pursue patent made

1st draft patent written by attorney and reviewed by inventor

2nd draft patent written by attorney and reviewed by inventor

Final patent application written by attorney and reviewed and signed by inventor

Patent application Filed by attorney

Idea to Business Process (Simplified)

Conception of
invention

Document in
notebook and
witness

Prior art search
and commercial
analysis

IP – patent,
trademark,
copyright

Licensing or
make/sell
invention

Typical Steps to issue patent after filing



