

# Manali V. Dighe

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Manali V. Dighe is an Associate in the San Francisco office of Borton Petrini, LLP. She received her Bachelors of Science in Microbiology & Molecular Genetics from UCLA. At UCLA, Manali was on the Dean's List and a member of the National Golden Key Honor Society. She received a Masters of Science degree in Molecular Biology & Biochemistry from the University of Southern California (USC). At USC, Manali was on the Dean's List. Thereafter, she received a J.D. from Loyola Law School. Manali is a registered patent attorney with the United States Patent and Trademark Office.

Prior to practicing law, Manali spent a number of years in the biotechnology industry, on the research side as a

molecular biologist/biochemist, as well as on the business side in sales/marketing. She was a research associate at the UCLA Crump Institute of Neurological Imaging and the UCLA Department of Pathology, where she worked on projects to optimize microarray technology and to determine differential gene expression in prostate cancer. Manali was also a Life Science Specialist with Sigma-Aldrich Corporation for over three years. In that capacity, she was responsible for growing Sigma's life science and high technology business in California. In this regard, she gave presentations to researchers and conducted scientific demonstrations regarding molecular biology and protein purification and expression. She also assisted in negotiating contracts with biotechnology and pharmaceutical companies.

Manali has prepared and prosecuted patents in the areas of biotechnology, chemistry, mechanical engineering, medical devices, materials science, software, and Internet-based technologies for start-ups, biotechnology companies, universities, solo inventors, and major medical device companies. She has also managed large U.S. and international patent portfolios, provided intellectual property law counseling, provided patentability and freedom-to-operate opinions, prepared and prosecuted trademark applications, and attended to proceedings with the U.S. Trademark Trial and Appeal Board.

Due to her unique business background, she is able to counsel clients on their intellectual property rights based upon their business objectives. In this manner, she is able to provide the most cost-effective solution for the client's situation.

In addition to practicing intellectual property law for a number of years, Manali's practice has expanded to include litigation and business transactional work. At Manali's previous firm, her team successfully regained rights to a domain name for a client through a strongly contested arbitration.

In her free time, Manali enjoys long distance running (marathons), boxing (punching bags), weight training, cross country skiing, watching football, and boating. She also enjoys spending time with her husband and baby daughter. She was born in Minneapolis, MN, and raised in Southern California. For her community and career efforts, Manali was nominated as "Rising Star" (2008) for the Women Making a Difference Award presented by the L.A. Business Journal.

## Education:

- ▶ University of California, Los Angeles, B.S. Microbiology & Molecular Genetics, 1997
- ▶ University of Southern California, M.S. Molecular Biology & Biochemistry, 2000
- ▶ Loyola Law School, J.D. 2004

## Admitted:

- ▶ State Bar of California, 2006
- ▶ United States Patent and Trademark Office, 2005

## Business and Professional Associations:

- ▶ Licensing Executives Society
- ▶ Southern California Biomedical Council
- ▶ TiE Silicon Valley

## Publications:

- ▶ Role of Msx2 on Prostate Cancer and Development (Master's Thesis)

## Lectures & Seminars:

- ▶ Speaker on intellectual property law at various seminars in Los Angeles and San Francisco

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