

# WILSON SONSINI

## Uale Taotafa

SENIOR COUNSEL

Patents and  
Innovations  
*San Diego*

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## FOCUS AREAS

Intellectual Property  
Life Sciences  
Patents and Innovations

## HIGHLIGHTS

- Represents Life Science Innovators**  
Uale has worked with innovators engaged in highly technical fields, including small molecule therapeutics, protein immunotherapies, oncolytic immunotherapies, antibiotics, and biocatalysts.
- Extensive Experience Representing Companies and Investors in Financings and M&A**  
Uale supported Synthorx and Pharmacyclics in each of their \$2+ billion acquisitions by a major pharmaceutical company and Synthorx, Tracon, and Optimer on IP matters related to their IPOs. He has supported more than 50 clients undergoing IP diligence for venture rounds of investment. Uale also has represented various venture and investment funds in IP diligence matters.
- Varied Intellectual Property Practice**  
Uale's practice includes freedom-to-operate and due-diligence studies, opinion work, IP acquisition strategy, and assisting with patent preparation and prosecution. He has been instrumental in the design and IP strategy of Imbruvica, an FDA-approved drug.
- Informed Technical Experience**  
Uale has a Ph.D. in organic chemistry, which helps him understand the complex technical language in the biotechnology, pharmaceutical, and materials fields.

## EXPERIENCE

Uale Taotafa is senior counsel at Wilson Sonsini Goodrich & Rosati. He practices in the area of intellectual property law, including patent preparation, patent prosecution, and counseling clients on intellectual property and related business matters. Uale represents clients in the pharmaceutical, materials, and biotechnology industries. He has analyzed intellectual property portfolios and performed IP due diligence for both venture capital firms and businesses in a variety of investment environments, including mergers and acquisitions. Uale also assists clients with trademark matters in the U.S. and abroad, including the prosecution of trademark applications.

Uale is practicing virtually in Arizona. He is admitted in California and Washington, D.C. He is not admitted in Arizona and therefore not authorized to practice law in Arizona.

## CREDENTIALS

### Education

- J.D., University of New Hampshire Franklin Pierce School of Law, 2006  
*Managing Editor*, IDEA: The Intellectual Property Law Review; *Merck Fellow*, 2003-06

- Ph.D., Organic Chemistry, Brigham Young University, 2003
- B.S., Chemistry, Brigham Young University-Hawaii, 1998

#### Associations and Memberships

- Member, American Bar Association
- Member, San Diego Intellectual Property Law Association

#### Admissions

- State Bar of California
- Bar of the District of Columbia
- Not admitted in Arizona

### INSIGHTS

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#### Select Publications

- Co-author, "Synthesis and Characterization of Peptide-cationic Steroid Antibiotic Conjugates," 6 *Organic Letters* 3433-36, 2004
- Co-author, "Antibacterial Properties of Cationic Steroid Antibiotics," 217 *FEMS Microbiology Letters* 1-7, 2002
- Co-author, "Anionic Facial Amphiphiles from Cholic Acid," 2 *Organic Letters* 4117-20, 2002

### TECHNICAL FLUENCY

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#### Biological Sciences and Biotechnology

- Cancer therapeutics

#### Therapeutics and Drug Discovery

- Antimicrobial agents
- Drug conjugates
- Drug conjugates based drug discovery
- Drug delivery
- Peptide therapeutics
- Pharmacokinetics
- Small molecule synthesis
- Small molecules

#### Chemistry and Material Science

- Chemical synthesis
- Chemistry
- Organic chemistry
- Peptidomimetics
- Polymers
- Polymorph

#### Miscellaneous

- Cancer
- Formulations