

Brett Zirkle

LAW CLERK

Patents and
Innovations
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FOCUS AREAS

Intellectual Property
Life Sciences
Patents and Innovations

EXPERIENCE

Dr. Brett Zirkle is a law clerk in the San Diego office of Wilson Sonsini Goodrich & Rosati, where he has been a member of the firm's patents and innovations practice since 2019. Brett has experience in patent prosecution, portfolio management, and diligence (buy and sell side) across discovery and preclinical stage biologics, clinical stage therapeutics, and omics-based biotechnologies.

Brett received his J.D. from the University of San Diego and his Ph.D. in Genetic, Molecular, and Cellular Biology from University of Southern California's Keck School of Medicine where his doctoral research focused on the structural biology, biochemistry, and genomics of immune response proteins, including antibodies and DNA editing enzymes. Prior to attending USC, Brett was a NIH Intramural Research Award Fellow within the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, Vaccine Research Center in which his research focused on HIV antibody structural biology and biochemistry. He was also the recipient of NASA West Virginia Space Grant for research related to field of molecular biology.

Brett is admitted to practice before USPTO. He is not yet admitted in California and therefore not authorized to practice law in California.

CREDENTIALS

Education

- J.D., University of San Diego School of Law, 2023
- Ph.D., Genetic, Molecular, and Cellular Biology, Keck School of Medicine of USC, 2019
- B.S., Shepherd University, 2005

Admissions

- U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
- Not admitted in California

INSIGHTS

Select Publications

- Co-author with X. Xiao, H. Yang, V. Arutiunian, Y. Fang, G. Besse, C. Morimoto, X.S. Chen, "Structural Determinants of APOBEC3B Non-Catalytic Domain for Molecular Assembly and Catalytic Regulation," 45(12) *Nucleic Acids Res.* 7494-7506, 2017
- Co-author with F. Ito, H. Yang, X. Xiao, S.X. Li, A. Wolfe, V. Arutiunian, X.S. Chen, "Understanding the Structure, Multimerization, Subcellular Localization and mC Selectivity of a Genomic Mutator and Anti-HIV Factor APOBEC3H," 8(1) *Sci Rep.* 3763, 2018
- Co-author with W. Wang, J. Nie, J. Ma, K. Gao, X.S. Chen, W. Huang, W. Kong, Y. Wang, "N463 Glycosylation Site on V5 Loop of a Mutant gp120 Regulates the Sensitivity of HIV-1 to Neutralizing Monoclonal Antibodies VRC01/03," 69(3) *J Acquir Immune Defic. Syndr.* 270-7, 2015

- Co-author with G. Ofek, Y. Yang, Z. Zhu, K. McKee, B. Zhang, G.Y. Chuang, I.S. Georgiev, S. O'Dell, N. Doria-Rose, J.R. Mascola, D.S. Dimitrov, P.D. Kwong, "Structural Basis for HIV-1 Neutralization by 2F5-like Antibodies m66 and m66.6.," 88(5) *J Virol.* 2426-41, 2014
- Co-author with C.Z. Plautz, M.J. Deshotel, R.M. Grainger, "Early Stages of Induction of Anterior Head Ectodermal Properties in *Xenopus* Embryos are Mediated by Transcriptional Cofactor *ldb1*," 243(12) *Dev Dyn.* 1606-18, 2014