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Women Joining the Patent Workforce

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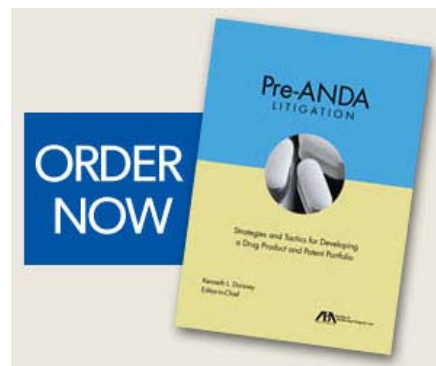
By Annette I. Kahler

Annette I. Kahler is the president and executive director of Exigent Innovations, Inc., an independent, nonprofit innovation research organization. She is also of counsel at the law firm of Heslin Rothenberg Farley & Mesiti P.C. in Albany, New York, where she focuses her practice on intellectual property strategy and management, technology licensing, dispute resolution, and litigation. The views expressed in this article are the author's alone. She can be reached at aik@hrfmlaw.com.

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Patent law has traditionally been one of the most male-dominated fields of legal practice, so here is good news on the diversity front: More women are entering the field of patent law than ever before. In recent years, more than 25% of all patent

practitioners newly admitted to practice before the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) are female.¹ Although it has not happened overnight, and still falls short of the 33% that women represent across the legal profession, this is a marked increase over prior decades when women were few and far between in the patent ranks.



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