



THE
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— Distinguished Professor Presentation —

The Rise and Fall of the First American Patent Thicket: The Sewing Machine War of the 1850s

Thursday, February 4, 2010 | Noon to 1:30 p.m.

The John Marshall Law School | Room 503 | 315 S. Plymouth Court | Chicago, Illinois 60604

Although the debate over patent thickets focuses on modern inventions like biotech and computers, patent thickets have been around since the early years of the American patent system. This lecture will present the fascinating story of the incremental invention of the sewing machine, how a “patent troll” created the first patent thicket with this invention, and how property rights helped cut this thicket and commercialize an invention that was fundamental to the Industrial Revolution.

Professor Adam Mossoff

George Mason University School of Law, Arlington, Virginia

Box lunches will be provided. There is no cost to attend this program, however reservations are required.

Please register online at www.jmls.edu/events/020410IP.asp. Registration deadline is Friday, January 29, 2010.

Questions? Contact Michele Bridges at 312.427.2737 ext. 581.

CLE CREDIT: The John Marshall Law School will advise the appropriate state bar or agency of the presentation of its program. The extension of CLE credit is subject to each state's approval. It is the responsibility of the individual to meet the requirements of each jurisdiction. The John Marshall Law School is an approved MCLE provider with the State Bars of California, Illinois, Missouri, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, and Wisconsin. The John Marshall Law School will assist with CLE applications to Florida, Georgia, Rhode Island, and Texas, but attorneys must apply individually for credit for courses and submit payment directly in these states.

CLE Credit: Approximately 1.5 hours.



Adam Mossoff

BA, University of Michigan

MA, Columbia University

JD, University of Chicago Law School

Adam Mossoff is an Associate Professor at George Mason

University School of Law, where he teaches and writes in the areas of intellectual property and property law.

He has written extensively on the intersection between intellectual property law and property theory, with a special emphasis on natural rights philosophy and its role in the intellectual history of patent law. He has addressed such issues as the historical protection of patents under the Takings Clause and the interplay between legal realist property theory in land and modern patent doctrines. Some of his recent writings include “The Use and Abuse of IP at the Birth of the Administrative State,” 157 *U. Pa. L. Rev.* 2001 (2009); “Exclusion and Exclusive Use in Patent Law,” 22 *Harv. J.L. & Tech.* 321 (2009); “Patents as Constitutional Private Property: The Historical Protection of Patents under the Takings Clause,” 87 *B.U. L. Rev.* 689 (2007); and “Who Cares What Thomas Jefferson Thought About Patents? Reevaluating the Patent ‘Privilege’ in Historical Context,” 92 *Cornell L. Rev.* 953 (2007). He was recently invited to participate in the *Tulsa Law Review's* 8th Annual Legal Scholarship Symposium, celebrating the work of Richard A. Epstein, and his article, “A Simple Conveyance Rule for Complex Innovation,” is forthcoming.

Before joining the faculty at George Mason in 2008, Professor Mossoff taught at Michigan State University College of Law, and was a Visiting Professor at the University of San Diego and Washington & Lee University. He received a BA in Philosophy, *with high distinction*, from the University of Michigan; an MA in Philosophy from Columbia University; and a JD, *with honors*, from the University of Chicago Law School. Professor Mossoff teaches courses in patent law, property, cyber law, property theory, and jurisprudence.



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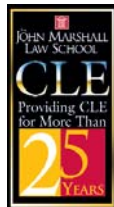
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