



Chad Sayala

Attorney

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Chad Sayala helps energy, industrial, and engineering-driven businesses turn technical innovation into protected commercial advantage. A registered patent attorney with hands-on oilfield experience, Chad builds practical IP strategies for drilling, production, subsurface, and emerging energy systems, so clients can protect core assets, support growth, and compete with confidence.

Before practicing law, Chad earned his B.S. in Petroleum Engineering and worked offshore in the Gulf of Mexico for a large oilfield services company, operating measurement-while-drilling (MWD) tools in demanding downhole environments. That field background helps him quickly understand how new technologies perform in real operating conditions and where patent protection can create business value.

His practice emphasizes patent procurement and portfolio planning for MWD/LWD systems, reservoir modeling and simulation, EOR/IOR, well control equipment, hydraulic fracturing systems, pipeline inspection tools, production assets, and upstream and midstream applications. He also advises on CCUS and geothermal innovations involving subsurface engineering, instrumentation, and fluid dynamics.

Chad works with founders, engineers, executives, and in-house counsel to identify protectable inventions, prepare and prosecute applications, and build portfolios that support commercialization, fundraising, partnerships, licensing, and exits. He also guides international filing and freedom-to-operate decisions, helping clients focus resources where protection can matter most.

Oilfield Services Companies

Service providers compete on reliability, performance, and speed to market. Chad helps protect tool designs, downhole systems, sensors, data-driven workflows, and field-deployed improvements that can be difficult for competitors to design around. His operational background allows him to work efficiently with engineers and product teams to identify what is commercially meaningful, technically novel, and worth protecting before disclosure, testing, or deployment.

Services

- Intellectual Property
- Patents

Energy Startups and Emerging Technology Companies

For startups and emerging energy ventures, Chad helps build portfolios that support fundraising, customer adoption, strategic partnerships, and enterprise value. He works with technical teams to capture early inventions, prioritize filings around core differentiators, and align IP strategy with product roadmaps and commercial milestones. His experience is especially valuable for teams developing subsurface, drilling, production, CCUS, geothermal, monitoring, automation, and data-driven systems.

In-House Counsel at Large Energy Companies

Chad supports in-house legal departments with technically informed, business-focused counsel for complex energy portfolios. He works directly with inventors, engineering managers, and legal stakeholders to prepare high-quality applications, manage prosecution, evaluate portfolio opportunities, and align protection with operational and commercial priorities. His combination of legal experience and field fluency helps legal and technical teams move faster with less translation friction.

Whether a company is preparing to launch a new tool, disclose an invention, enter a strategic partnership, or strengthen an existing portfolio, Chad helps decision-makers identify what should be protected and how to move forward with a practical, business-focused patent strategy.

Education

- University of Dayton School of Law (J.D.)
- The University of Texas at Austin (B.S.)

State Bar Admissions

- Texas

Court Admissions

- United States Patent and Trademark Office
- United States District Court for the Eastern District of Texas
- United States District Court for the Northern District of Texas

Professional Affiliations

- Society of Petroleum Engineers (SPE), Dallas Section, Member
- Petroleum Engineers Club of Dallas (PECD), Member