



## Ryan K. Simmons Joins Ward and Smith, P.A.

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May 17, 2010

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Ward and Smith, P.A. is pleased to welcome attorney Ryan K. Simmons to the Firm's New Bern office. Mr. Simmons' practice currently is limited to federal patent law before the United States Patent and Trademark Office while his license to practice state law in North Carolina is pending. He is licensed to practice law in Florida and Vermont. After obtaining his North Carolina license, Mr. Simmons' practice primarily will focus on matters relating to intellectual property ("IP"), including preparing, filing, and prosecuting patent, trademark, and service mark applications; supporting and negotiating IP agreements and IP-related terms and conditions in other types of agreements; and assisting clients with identifying and protecting their IP rights.

Mr. Simmons earned his B.S. in Biology from Utah State University and his law degree from Florida Coastal School of Law.