

## Rebekah Z. Kitto, PhD

ASSOCIATE

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Dr. Rebekah Kitto assists Choate's life sciences clients in the preparation and prosecution of patent applications, as well as freedom-to-operate and patentability analyses.

While working on her PhD from UC Berkeley, Rebekah designed and tested nucleic acid sensors to detect small molecule and RNA targets implicated in bacterial virulence through the use of molecular, chemical biological, and computational approaches. Her work investigated mRNA splicing pattern changes in cancer-specific human genes upon treatment with Cas9 methyltransferase fusions, as well as RNA-based gene regulation systems in planta under microgravity conditions through collaboration with NASA and the ISU.

While receiving her undergraduate education at Caltech, Rebekah constructed and screened terpene synthase protein libraries to generate mutants capable of selective enzymatic synthesis of biofuel precursor molecules.

## Admissions

- Massachusetts
- U.S. Patent & Trademark Office

## Representative Engagements

- · Drafts and prosecutes pharmaceutical and biotechnological scientific patent applications.
- · Manages intellectual property portfolios for academic and industrial clients.
- · Performs freedom-to-operate and patentability analyses, including expert prior art and patent landscape searching.

## **Focus Areas**

Intellectual Property

**IP Counseling** Post Grant

**Proceedings**