

## 5 KEY TAKEAWAYS

# Strategies for Protecting Trade Secrets

In February 2020, nearly 100 in-house counsel attended Kilpatrick Townsend's annual "Advanced Patent Law CLE Seminar" in Durham, North Carolina. Kilpatrick Townsend attorneys provided informative sessions, including [Jason Wenker](#) and [Beth Winters](#)' presentation addressing "Strategies for Protecting Trade Secrets."

Here are five key takeaways:

1

Perform a trade secret audit to identify your most valuable trade secrets and assess current protections.

2

Implement "must have" measures, including "need to know access," whistleblower notices, confidentiality agreements with employees and third parties, and employee onboarding/exit interview checklists.

3

Assess the need for additional measures, like tracking software and automatic document labeling.

4

Re-assess your trade secret protections during major events, like when a key employee leaves or when entering into a new business venture.

5

If you suspect or learn of misappropriation, engage a digital forensic expert and secure data and devices (but do not turn them on).

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