

## Legal Hacks for Creators, Inventors and Entrepreneurs

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*Welcome back to my very short and informal newsletter, sharing a bit of what I find interesting, quirky or just fun about intellectual property law and patents. I publish this newsletter periodically to share at least one idea that I think you will find both engaging and useful.*



### THREE SKILLS OF EVERY SUCCESSFUL INVENTOR

You may be surprised to learn that it's not really about the *patent*. While patents are certainly important, it's the *product* that everyone is after and having a clear vision of your product is one of the most important things you can do as an inventor.

In this [video](#), I present the three key steps to becoming a financially successful inventor, including observing and being able to identify opportunities for your invention; understanding and seeing how your product can work in the real world to solve a problem; and, maybe most importantly, effectively communicating your product's value and how it can make the future better (while also being profitable). Potential partners and manufacturers need and want your ideas and products just as much as you need them.

With these steps, you can increase your chances of success and quickly get onto the path to profitability.



## JAILED FOR PATENT INFRINGEMENT

“What are you in for?” is a common query among the imprisoned. But “patent infringement,” is not a common answer in the jailhouse. And it definitely won’t raise your standing among your fellow inmates during yard time.

In most countries, patent infringement is a civil matter as opposed to criminal, meaning that you can only be sued and fined, but there are notable exceptions. In this [video](#), I present the story of how I helped a client in Taiwan jailed for patent infringement and explain that in the U.S., the same offense can result in substantial civil penalties. In countries where patent infringement is a criminal offense, penalties can result in a lengthy prison term plus financial sanctions.

Inventors and entrepreneurs should always avoid infringing on intellectual property rights, but even more so in countries where such a violation might result in an unplanned stay behind bars.

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If you’ve missed previous issues, [CLICK HERE](#) and read them all!

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### ABOUT JOHN FERRELL

*John Ferrell is a founder and patent attorney at the Silicon Valley law firm of Carr & Ferrell. The author of two books and a growing YouTube channel on Intellectual Property, John’s passion for creating and protecting patent monopolies is reflected in his representation of many of the world’s most important companies and inventors—some 5,000 so far.*

*Founded in 1992, Carr & Ferrell has filed more than 10,000 patent applications covering nearly every imaginable technology. John is admitted to practice law in California; numerous Federal jurisdictions, including before the U.S. Supreme Court; and in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office.*

John Ferrell, Attorney at Law  
Carr & Ferrell LLP  
411 Borel Ave., Ste. 603  
San Mateo, CA 94402  
Phone: 650.812.3408  
Email: [jsferrell@carrferrell.com](mailto:jsferrell@carrferrell.com)  
Webpage: [Carr & Ferrell](http://Carr & Ferrell)



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