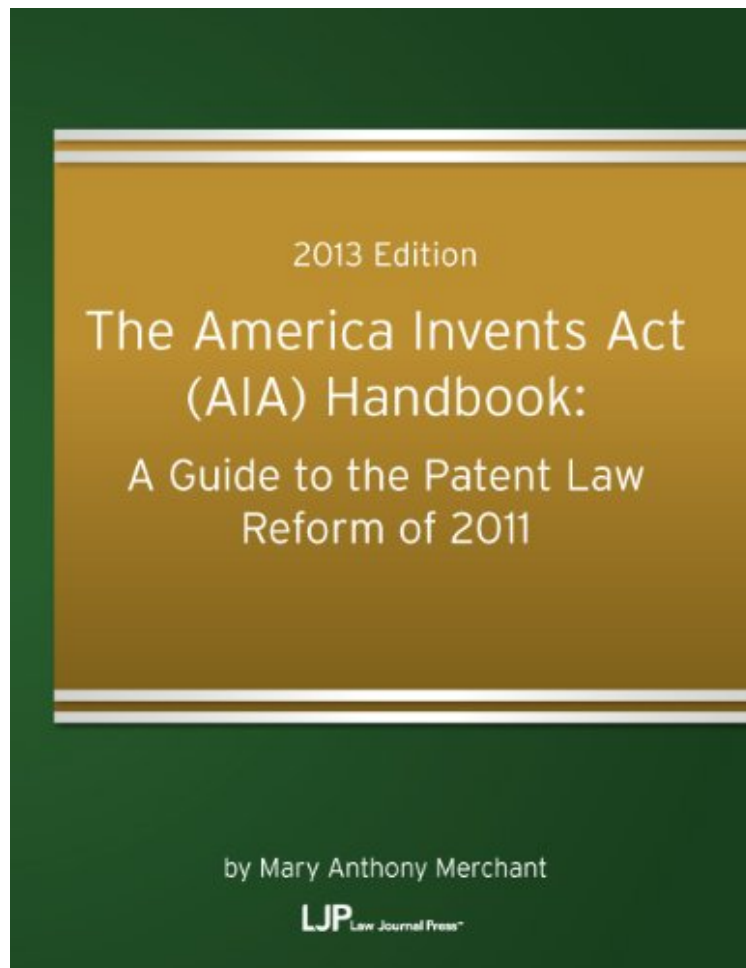


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The America Invents Act (AIA) Handbook: A Guide to the Patent Law Reform of 2011

Mary Anthony Merchant

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About the AuthorMary Anthony Merchant, J.D., Ph.D. is a partner at Ballard Spahr LLP, where she leads the biotechnology patent group. She has practiced law for twenty years, focusing on intellectual property law, including trademark registration and patent procurement, with an emphasis on the life sciences. Her practice encompasses the biotechnology, pharmaceuticals, agricultural sciences, cosmetics, consumer products, nutraceuticals and medical device fields. Dr. Merchants graduate and post-graduate research involved both mammalian and plant molecular biology, protein biochemistry, immunology, microbiology and infectious diseases. She received her undergraduate degree in Biology, cum laude, from Randolph-Macon Womens College, her Ph.D. from the University of Florida College of Medicine and her J.D. degree, with honors, from the University of Florida College of Law. She lives in Atlanta, Georgia with her husband and two corgis.