

Barnes & Thornburg Secures 11 Millionth U.S. Patent For Heart Valve Device

Barnes & Thornburg is pleased to announce that Minneapolis partner and Intellectual Property Department member Jeff Stone secured the 11 millionth patent issued by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO).

The patent was issued for longtime client 4C Medical Technologies Inc.'s ("4C Medical") invention, AltaValve™, a prosthetic mitral valve replacement technology, currently being evaluated in clinical research studies. The milestone patent was awarded on May 11, 2021, three years after the USPTO issued its 10 millionth patent.

This invention is a device that delivers, positions, and repositions the prosthetic heart valve (AltaValve™) in a patient's heart chamber to treat primary and secondary mitral regurgitation. The implantation of the device is completed using a catheter, a minimally invasive procedure designed to expand patient population to those who are at high risk for open-heart surgery. It is currently the only device that preserves the native mitral valve and has potential to treat patients with failed mitral valve repair.

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