Below is a list of essential Practical Law resources to help you get up to speed on the basics. These helpful resources include:

- **Practice Notes**: Plain language, how-to-guides.
- **Standard Documents**: Sample templates of pleadings, motions, and other documents that include helpful drafting notes which provide guidance and direction.
- **Checklists and Flowcharts**: Process oriented guides to give you a quick overview of required steps for various issues.

**Intellectual Property: Overview – Practice Note**
This helpful guide provides an overview of the principal categories of intellectual property, such as patents, trademarks, copyrights, mask works, and trade secrets.

**Intellectual Property Rights: The Key Issues – Practice Note**
Learn more about the main categories of intellectual property including IP ownership, assignment, and licensing.

**Trademark: Overview – Practice Note**
Gain an overview of US trademark law, such as the legal framework for trademark law, the nature of trademark protection, the acquisition and maintenance of trademark rights and registrations, trademark enforcement and protection, exploiting trademarks, and loss of trademark rights.

**Copyright: Overview – Practice Note**
Gain an overview of the main features of US copyright law, including the legal framework under the Copyright Act of 1976.

**Patent: Overview – Practice Note**
Gain an overview of US patent law and outlines the policy and legal framework, the nature of patent protection, patent ownership, and the legal requirements and procedures for obtaining, enforcing, and exploiting patent rights.

**Intellectual Property: Employees and Independent Contractors – Practice Note**
Learn more about IP rights in inventions and other work product created by employees and independent contractors or consultants, including the default rules concerning initial ownership of and the right to use copyright, trademark, patent, and trade secret rights in inventions and work product as between a company and an individual employee or contractor, and best practices for a company seeking to secure ownership of these IP rights.

**Intellectual Property Licensing – Toolkit**
Resources concerning the licensing of patent, trademark, copyright, and other intellectual property (IP), including technology protected by IP rights.

www.lawschool.westlaw.com
**Intellectual Property: Sublicensing – Practice Note**  
Gain an understanding of the key considerations in IP sublicensing, including the IP owner's control over the selection and performance of permitted sublicensees, the scope and duration of the sublicense, compensation to the IP owner, and protections for the sublicensee, including if the licensee breaches the primary license agreement or files for bankruptcy.

**Intellectual Property: Joint Ownership – Practice Note**  
A discussion of joint ownership of patents, copyrights, and trademarks under US federal law, including how joint ownership may arise, the default rules concerning exploitation and enforcement of jointly owned IP, and drafting considerations for parties to various types of strategic alliance or collaboration agreements (including joint development agreements, co-marketing agreements, and commercialization partnership agreements) that may involve joint ownership of IP.

**US Privacy and Data Security Law: Overview – Practice Note**  
Gain an overview of prominent US privacy and data security laws relating to the collection, use, processing, and disclosure of personal information. It summarizes key federal privacy and data security laws, certain state laws, with a focus on California and Massachusetts, and the Mobile Marketing Association and Payment Card Industry Data Security Standards, two key industry-specific privacy and data security guidelines and requirements.