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Can I Hire An Attorney On A Contingency Basis To Enforce My Patent?

[Kristie Prinz](#)

Q. I own the rights to a U.S. patent. A company licensed the patent from me, but failed to pay me any royalties as provided in the license agreement. The company continues to sell my products. Can I hire a lawyer on a contingency basis to enforce my rights in the patent? How do I find such an attorney?

-- *Marlene***A.**

Based on the facts you have shared, you may have a viable case against the company for patent infringement and breach of the license agreement. You should consult with an attorney in your area who practices in the areas of patent infringement and commercial litigation to discuss the specific facts of your case and decide on whether it makes sense to proceed on this matter.

As for finding an attorney who will take a case on a contingency basis, this may be a bit more difficult. Some attorneys will agree to take cases on a contingency basis, provided that they believe that the potential payoff will be large enough to at least compensate them for their services. Other attorneys will absolutely not work on a contingency basis under any condition. Typically attorneys do not take breach of contract cases on a contingency, but they may take a case personal injury or intellectual property infringement case on a contingency basis, since the potential payoff can be high in such matters.

To find the right attorney who will work with you on the basis you are seeking, you should ask for personal referrals from attorneys you know and respect in your area, or perhaps for a referrals from business people in your area who have worked with attorneys in the past. The Internet can also be a resource now finding you an attorney with the right credentials, particularly since some attorneys will indicate on their websites whether or not they welcome or accept contingency client, in addition to publishing articles they have written or other credentials on the website. This site, lawyers.com, offers a [lawyer directory](#) you can utilize.

-- *Kristie Prinz***Browse for a Lawyer**

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