

Annual Report



2025

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President's Message

Kimberly Van Voorhis,
AIPLA President, 2024-2025



To my AIPLA family and friends,

Nearly one year ago, I became AIPLA's President. I remember the sunny October afternoon like it was yesterday. My family sat in the front row, and I tried very hard not to look at them for fear of tearing up. Instead, surrounded on the stage with the energy of the nine female presidents who preceded me, I focused outward. I highlighted the value of AIPLA membership and emphasized the importance of cultivating both current and future leaders within our community—ensuring that AIPLA and the broader IP profession continue to thrive for years to come. I closed my remarks noting, “To our members and future members, to our leaders and future leaders, this year is for you, and I can’t wait to get started.”

Well, we did get started, and we haven’t stopped since.

We kicked off the year with AIPLA’s first-ever Leadership Forum. This was part of our ongoing commitment to re-imagine AIPLA’s meeting structure and educational programming at the start of the calendar year. We explored our personal leadership styles and learned how to put them to use. We learned a TON about each other and how to succeed as one AIPLA team, despite our varying degrees of expertise, talents, and leadership styles. We also welcomed new members and future Association leaders, providing a space for networking and engagement in a way that only AIPLA can deliver. It goes without saying that we also had a blast!

With our finely tuned skills and even stronger relationships, we approached AIPLA’s strategic goals with a fresh and reinvigorated perspective that has carried us through the rest of the association year.

In terms of **Advocacy**, before the new Administration even arrived in Washington, AIPLA was out front highlighting key IP priorities, including patent backlogs, fees, PTAB practice and procedures, trademark fraud, design practice, and ensuring online marketplaces are safe for consumers. We continue to engage on these issues with lawmakers, IP offices, and in the courts, not just in the US, but around the world. This year, I was able to experience AIPLA’s global impact first-hand. On delegation trips to Japan (Tokyo and Osaka), Europe (Munich, Geneva and Milan), and Latin America (Brazil), AIPLA connected with IP office heads, IP court judges, and local bar associations. President-Elect Sal Anastasi also joined the IP Practice in Asia Pacific Committee for their delegation (Singapore and South Korea). Across all these trips, we shared updates and ideas, and we brainstormed on ways we can use our shared experiences and appreciation of IP to unite in the names of science, progress and creativity, for these are the bedrock principles of IP no matter which continent you call home.

On the **Education** front, from a record attendance Spring meeting in Minneapolis where we welcomed 3M General Counsel, Kevin Rhodes, Acting Deputy Director of the USPTO, Will Covey, and the Prince Estate’s legal team, among many other accomplished speakers and practitioners, to the highly instructive Patent Boot Camp in DC, to

our popular Trade Secret Summit in Nashville (a first for AIPLA in this vibrant city), and more, AIPLA has doubled down on our best-in-class education this past year.

One thing that stood out during our leadership training is that education is not a one-size-fits-all approach—Some members are looking for advanced training and deep dives, others prefer hands-on learning or basic bootcamps. While many value the convenience of online programs, others benefit most from in-person experiences like our roadshows and stated meetings. AIPLA members know that our organization **PROVIDES IT ALL**. We meet our members where you are, and we provide the education and resources to help you succeed. If you want to teach it, we have a platform. If you need to learn it, we have a platform. Short on time? Craving a multi-day deep on a particular topic? No organization does education like AIPLA.

In closing, I want to take us back to **Leadership**. At AIPLA, leadership takes many forms. Sometimes we are committee or subcommittee chairs; sometimes we are members of appointed committees or task forces; sometimes we are members of the Board; and sometimes our role is that of valued members. I’ve been there many times during my 25+ years with the Association. No matter what role you play, you are leading—whether as committee chairs and active members on the front lines drafting comments, writing amicus briefs, and engaging daily with our community; members who attend stated meetings to share knowledge, teach, and mentor; those who join virtual meetings to stay connected to the AIPLA network; experienced members supporting future leaders; colleagues in government and IP offices around the world; or even those who can’t attend meetings or volunteer but still recognize the importance of our work. Through our shared membership, each of us is leading—and together, our continued support of AIPLA makes a lasting impact.

I thank you all for continuing to keep AIPLA thriving, and I thank you for entrusting our Board of Directors, our incredible AIPLA staff, and me to lead the charge this past year. You are in excellent hands in the years ahead, especially with Sal Anastasi taking over the reins, and I look forward to all that we can accomplish together.

About AIPLA

At a Glance

Founded: 1897

Members: 6500+

Core Focus:

- Patents
- Trademarks
- Copyright
- Trade Secrets
- Unfair Competition

Championing Innovation Since 1897.

AIPLA fosters innovation, creativity, and fair competition by empowering IP professionals within an effective and balanced intellectual property system through education, advocacy, and the mutual support of a diverse community of peers.

What We Do

Advocate:

Shape laws and policies for a balanced IP system

Educate:

Provide premier CLE and resources to develop world-class IP practitioners

Connect:

Build a diverse, global community of innovators and legal professionals



Education

Deliver cutting-edge CLE, training, and resources to equip IP professionals for the future.



Membership/ Community

Build connections and foster community through networking and mentoring.



Advocacy

Lead policy discussions shaping IP law at home and abroad.



Foundational

Strengthen operations to serve members and fulfill our mission.

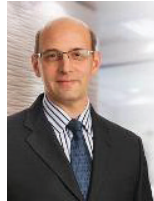
Join us at www.aipla.org and be part of shaping the future of intellectual property.

Board of Directors

Executive Committee



Kimberly Van Voorhis
President
Nike, Inc



Sal Anastasi
President-Elect
Barley Snyder



Matthew Wagner
First Vice President
PDC Brands



Nancy Mertzel
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Mertzel Law PLLC



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University of Nebraska
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Lincoln, NE

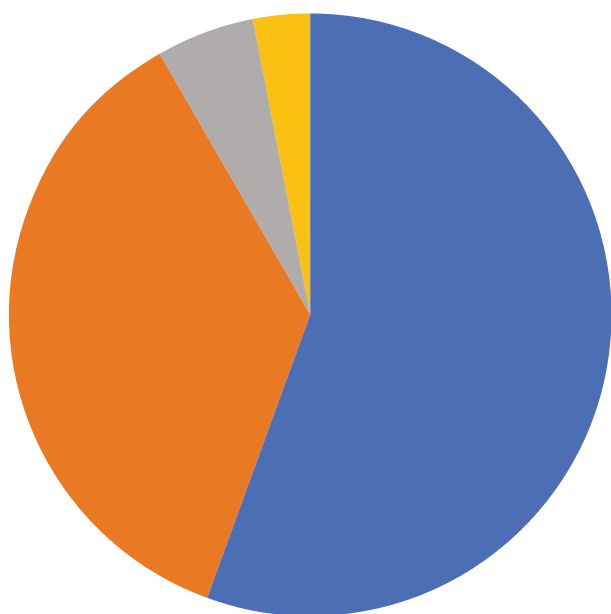
Lauren Emerson
Leason Ellis LLP
Goldens Bridge, NY

Rachel Kahler
Carlson Caspers
Minneapolis, MN



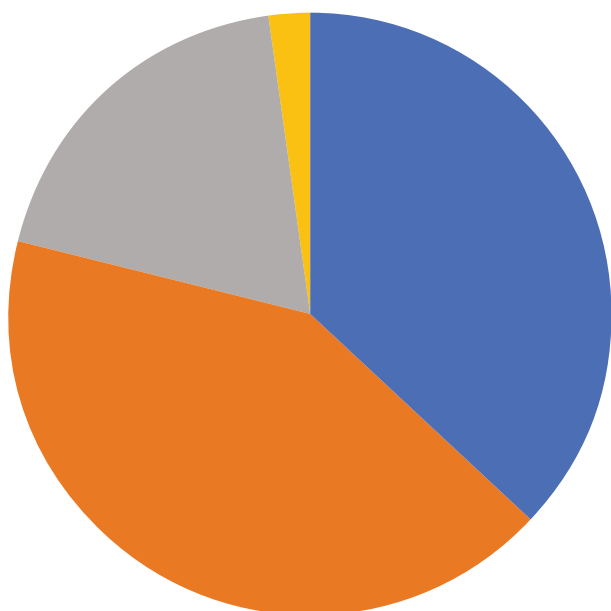
Pictured: 2024-2025 Board of Directors with incoming Board members.

2025 Financials



Total Revenue: \$5,234,299.00

Meetings & Events:	55%
Membership Dues:	36%
Advertising & Royalties:	5%
Interest, Publications, and Other Income	3%



Total Expense: \$5,046,006.00

Membership Services:	37%
Meetings & Events:	42%
General & Administrative:	19%
Publications:	2%



Member Services

From world-class CLE to exclusive networking, AIPLA membership gives you the tools, connections, and influence to thrive.

Growth & Development

- Career Center with IP-specific job listings
- Leadership and mentoring programs
- Member discounts on events & webinars

Involvement

- 60+ committees for specialized networking
- Hybrid events & mentoring clusters
- Opportunities to influence AIPLA policy & programs

Resources

- On-demand CLE library
- Model Patent Jury Instructions & Rules
- IP licensing agreement templates
- Report of the Economic Survey

Connecting with Members Where They Are

Our social media platforms amplify your voice, celebrate your achievements, and connect IP professionals worldwide.

Follow Us:

LinkedIn:
American Intellectual Property Law Association (AIPLA)

X: @aipla

Instagram: @aipladc

Facebook: AIPLA

Followers:

LinkedIn – 20,400 +

Instagram – 870 +

X – 5,500 +

Facebook – 5,900 +

7

Instagram Takeovers

- Members gave behind-the-scenes looks at their work, conferences, and daily lives in IP.

3

LinkedIn Live Events

- Real-time discussions with industry leaders, open to a global audience.

12

Monthly Member Spotlights

- Celebrating the people who make AIPLA thrive.

Follow us for real-time updates, behind-the-scenes at events, and member spotlights.

Get Featured!

Tag us in your posts using hashtag **#AIPLA**

[Submit your story for the Member Spotlight](#)

IP Marketplace

AIPLA's IP Marketplace is a web-based solution providers directory of IP products and services. The IP Marketplace now also features a calendar of all IP-related events globally. With just a few clicks, AIPLA members and other IP practitioners around the world can easily locate the latest and most innovative IP products and services to meet their business needs. For more information about how to reserve your IP Marketplace listing, please contact Lisa Beller at 703-981-8440 or lbeller@aipla.org.

Your CLE and professional development—**anytime, anywhere.**



3

Boot Camps & Roadshows in
**Nashville, Austin, and
Arlington, VA**, with
1665 minutes of CLE

5435

total minutes of CLE

First-ever Leadership Forum
in **Palm Springs, CA** -
with **300+** attendees, and
330 minutes of CLE



6

Committee Leadership Webinars -
focused on **best practices**
and **engagement**

2

Stated Meetings in **Minneapolis** and
National Harbor, MD - with **2000 +**
attendees from around the world and
2130 minutes of CLE

12

Monthly CLE Webinars -
810 minutes of CLE
with **599** total attendees

Special Programs

World IP Day celebration
with Congress & USPTO
leaders and **WIPO**
Global Database Seminar



Sen. Thom Tillis and Rep. Deborah Ross address
World IP Day attendees on Capitol Hill

NEVER MISS A PROGRAM

- View upcoming webinars:
www.aipla.org/webinars
- Access past sessions in the
Online Learning Academy
- Members get exclusive pricing &
on-demand access

Advocacy

From the courts to Capitol Hill, AIPLA advocates for a balanced and effective IP system on your behalf.

Judicial Advocacy

This February, the Supreme Court issued a unanimous decision in *Dewberry Group, Inc. v. Dewberry Engineers Inc.*, which was in line with the amicus brief filed by AIPLA on September 6, 2024.

AIPLA filed an amicus brief to the Enlarged Board of Appeal of the European Patent Office (EPO), offering its perspective on referral G1/24 about claim interpretation. AIPLA has also filed amicus briefs in the following cases: *EcoFactor, Inc. v. Google LLC*, *Pegasystems Inc. v. Appian Corporation*, and *Cox Communications v. Sony*.

Legislative Advocacy

AIPLA regularly engages with Members of Congress, particularly from the House and Senate IP Subcommittees. AIPLA has met with offices on the Hill to discuss a number of key legislative issues including, the Patent Eligibility Restoration Act (“PERA”) of 2025, the Promoting and Respecting Economically Vital American Innovation Leadership Act (“PREVAIL”), and the NO FAKES Act of 2025 (“NO FAKES”).

In May this year, AIPLA was quoted in a press release by Senator Thom Tillis, where we expressed our support for the reintroduction of PERA and in a press release by Senator Chris Coons expressing our support for PREVAIL. In addition to sending support letters to Congress on the reintroduction of PERA and PREVAIL, AIPLA also submitted a letter to the Senate Judiciary Committee issuing our support for the nomination of John A. Squires as Director of the United States Patent & Trademark Office (“USPTO”), a joint letter with the Intellectual Property Organization (“IPO”) urging action to reduce patent backlog, and a letter to the Trump Transition Team on our IP priority recommendations for this Administration, and most recently, a joint letter with a coalition of organizations expressing strong support for S. 2677 /H.R. 4930, a bill introduced to clarify Customs and Border Protection’s (“CBP”) authority to share information with private sector stakeholders.

AIPLA has attended numerous congressional hearings this year on a number of important topics, including, Oversight of the US Copyright Office, IP and Strategic Competition with China, AI-Generated Deepfakes in 2025, Examining Competition Issues in the Prescription Drug Supply Chain, and Trade Secrets and the Global AI Arms Race.

Government Agency Engagement

AIPLA has been actively involved with various government agencies that engage on IP issues, including the USPTO, the U.S. Copyright Office, among others.

This year, AIPLA, with the help of its subject matter committee experts, have filed comments to the USPTO on Statutory Experimental Use Exceptions, 2024 Guidance Update on Patent Subject Matter Eligibility, Supplemental Guidance for Examination of Design Patent Applications Related to Computer-Generated Electronic Images, the WIPO GRTK Treaty, and more. We also filed comments to the Copyright Office on the CASE Act Study and to the NMPA regarding draft measures on the protection of drug trial data in China.

AIPLA also attended a public hearing at the USPTO on the WIPO Treaty on Intellectual Property, Genetic Resources and Associated Traditional Knowledge with oral testimony given by Chair of AIPLA’s Genetic Resources and Traditional Knowledge Task Force. Our Copyright Law Committee members also had the opportunity to visit the Copyright Office to meet with Register of Copyrights and other Copyright Office leaders on modernization, the CCB, and the Office’s latest AI Report.

International Outreach

AIPLA participated in the TM5 Heads of Office meeting, the Annual Meeting of the ID5, the Trilateral Heads of Office, the WIPO General Assembly, and the AIPPI World Congress.

AIPLA responded to a Request for Comments from the Chinese government for Implementation Measures for the Protection of Drug Trial Data (Trial, Draft for Comments) & Working Procedures for the Protection of Drug Trial Data (Draft for Comments).



International Engagement

From Asia to Europe to Latin America, AIPLA builds relationships that open doors for our members and shape global IP policy.

The IP Practice in Europe Committee was more active than ever in 2025, expanding membership, collaborations, and initiatives across the Atlantic. Recent highlights include filing an amicus brief to the EPO in referral G1/24, launching a [LinkedIn page](#), producing reports on prior use rights, and co-hosting webinars on topics like UPC jurisdiction and mediation rules. **The Committee also conducted its annual delegation trip to Munich, Geneva, and Milan, meeting with the EPO, WIPO, and UPC judges, sparking new partnerships and programs with European institutions.**

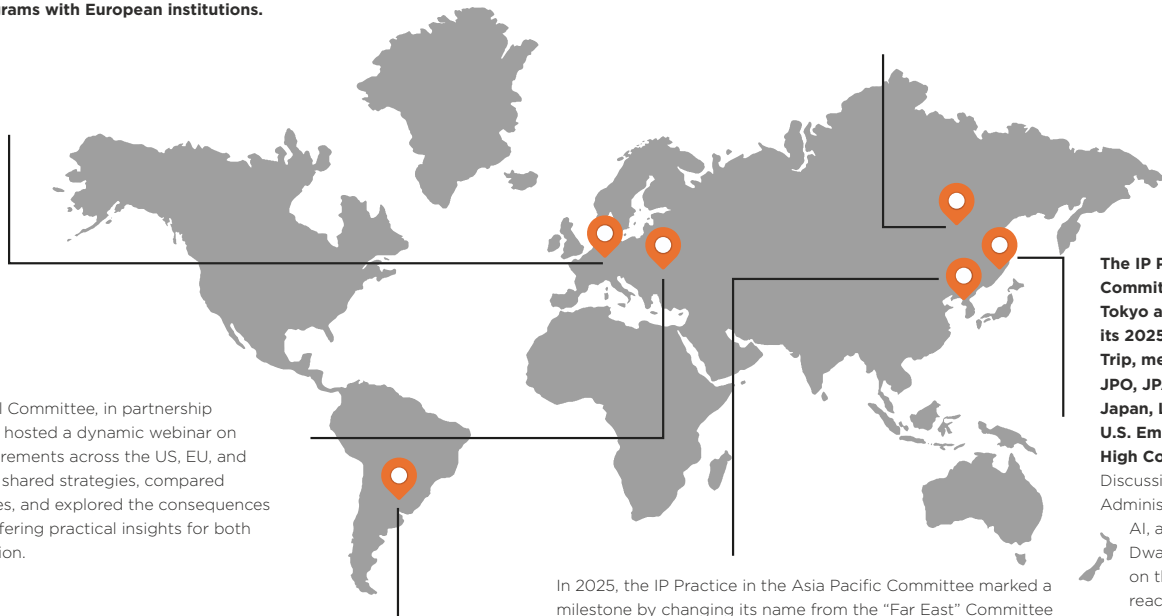
The IP Practice in Israel Committee, in partnership with S. Horowitz & Co., hosted a dynamic webinar on patent disclosure requirements across the US, EU, and Israel. Expert speakers shared strategies, compared jurisdictional differences, and explored the consequences of non-compliance—offering practical insights for both prosecution and litigation.

The IP Practice in Latin America Committee traveled to Brazil in 2025, combining professional, cultural, and social experiences in the region's largest economy and home to the highest volume of patent and trademark applications in Latin America.

Delegates met with Mr. Júlio César Castelo Branco Reis Moreira, President of INPI, and department heads to discuss progress on patent pendency and Brazil's inclusion in the USTR's Special 301 Watch List. They also visited the Federal Court of Appeals in Rio de Janeiro, where Vice Chief Justice Hon. Guilherme Calmon, Justice Hon. Marcia Nunes, and colleagues shared insights into federal jurisdiction and appeals of INPI decisions. The trip concluded with a brunch at Dannemann Siemsen, featuring remarks by Cairo Jennings, USPTO Attaché for the region. Alongside these professional engagements, members enjoyed cultural highlights, including traditional meals, gatherings at Copacabana beach, and even samba dancing, making the trip both impactful and memorable.



The IP Practice in China Committee has been active over the last year including holding monthly calls featuring updates on Chinese law and guest speakers. Guest speakers included Michael Mangelson, US IP attaché in Beijing, regarding CN-US IP developments, and Xiao Han of Foundin regarding export control requirements for patent assignments.



The IP Practice in Japan Committee traveled to Tokyo and Osaka for its 2025 Delegation Trip, meeting with the JPO, JPAA, JIPA, AIPPI Japan, LES Japan, the U.S. Embassy, the IP High Court, and more.

Discussions covered the new Administration, generative AI, and the landmark Dwango v. FC2 decision on the extraterritorial reach of Japanese patent law. The delegation also enjoyed joint receptions, cultural exchanges, and presentations on cross-border IP issues, startups, design rights, and trademark trends—strengthening professional ties between the US and Japan's IP communities.



In 2025, the IP Practice in the Asia Pacific Committee marked a milestone by changing its name from the "Far East" Committee to better reflect its broad regional focus. The Committee established four new subcommittees for Korea, Taiwan, India, and Southeast Asia, strengthening its network and expertise. Continuing its tradition of annual delegations, **the Committee led visits to Singapore and Seoul, South Korea, where AIPLA leadership met with IPOS, SIAC, KPAA, the IP High Court of Korea, IPTAB, KINPA, and KIPLA.** The trip also featured joint seminars with ASPA and APAA's Singapore Group, as well as with KPAA and other Korean IP associations, covering leading-edge topics and fostering strong ties with key institutions. In addition, the committee provided members with periodic updates on regional legal developments, reinforcing its role as a hub for collaboration and insight in the Asia Pacific IP community.

Publications

Inform Your Strategy

Report of the Economic Survey – Premier benchmarking data for law firms, corporations, and policymakers. Frequently cited in court opinions.

Quarterly Policy Memo – Advocacy updates, legislative tracking, and agency news each quarter.

Build Your Knowledge

Quarterly Journal – Scholarly IP articles in partnership with GWU Law.

INNOVATE Magazine – Member-written, practice-ready insights from students to senior practitioners.

Stay Current

AIPLA Direct – Rapid case and legislation updates.

AIPLA eBulletin – Post-meeting recaps, committee updates, and event highlights.

Notes + News – Biweekly newsletter with committee updates, job postings, and upcoming events.

AIPLA Newsstand – Curated Lexology articles tailored to your IP interests.

12+ major publications annually

Cited in **26** court opinions

Readership in **30+**
countries

Want to Get Your Article or Manuscript Published?

Submit to **INNOVATE** or the **Quarterly Journal**!

Awards

Honoring Excellence in IP

Last year, during the 2024 Annual Meeting, AIPLA recognized outstanding contributions, leadership, and innovation from our members. Stay tuned for the 2025 awardees to be announced at the 2025 Annual Meeting.



AIPLA Excellence Award

Presented to
Shira Perlmutter
US Copyright Office



Mentor of the Year Award

Presented to
Michael B. Stewart
Fishman Stewart
Troy, MI



President's Outstanding Service Award

Presented to
Bradley Forrest
Schwegman Lundberg
& Woessner, P.A.
Minneapolis, MN



Jan Jancin Award

Presented to
Victoria Fang
Cravath, Swaine & Moore LLP
New York, NY



AIPLA Past President's Award

Presented to
Xu Li
Fish & Richardson
Santa Clara, CA



Maurice Klitzman Award

Presented to
Anna Haller
Procter & Gamble Company
Cincinnati, OH



Coordinator of the Year

Presented to
Shubhrangshu "Rushi" Sengupta
US Conec Ltd.
Hickory, NC



Diversity Champion

Presented to
Jason Murata
Axinn Veltrop & Harkrider, LLP
San Francisco, CA



Committee of the Year

Presented to
GRTK Task Force
Debora Plehn-Dujowich
Eckert Seamans Cherin
& Mellott, LLC
Philadelphia, PA



Robert C. Watson Award

Presented to
Alex Furchich
Mitchell Hamline School of Law
Vadnais Heights, MN

AIPLA Project Award

Presented to
The Mentoring Committee & Women in IP Committee's Women Entrepreneurship Project done in conjunction with the US Patent and Trademark Office

★ ★ ★
**2024-
2025**
AWARDS

Headquarters Staff

Executive Management



Vincent Garlock
Executive Director



Meghan Donohoe
Chief Operating Officer



Laurie Hull
Administrative Coordinator

Finance & Accounting



Joyelle Ogilvie
Accounting & Finance Manager

Information Technology



Randy Sagara
Information Technology Manager

Policy



Eliya Bernstein
Policy Counsel

Marketing & Communications

Ariella Gordon



Marketing & Communications
Manager

Membership & Education

Andrea Alder



Senior Manager of Membership and
Professional Development

Kim Kassam



Professional Development and
Programs Coordinator

Tanisha Sherrill



Membership Coordinator



AIPLA

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