American Intellectual Property Law Association
Serving the Creative and Legal Communities



2026 Annual Report

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President's Message



Salvatore Anastasi
AIPLA President, 2025-2026

As I reflect on the past year, I am struck by one theme that has shaped nearly every aspect of AIPLA's work: **listening**.

One of my priorities this year has been listening to the next generation of IP professionals. Through visits with law students, conversations with junior practitioners, and virtual discussions across the country, I've sought to better understand what they need as they begin their careers and how AIPLA can better support them along the way. Their perspectives have been invaluable, and they are helping shape how we think about education, mentorship, networking, and professional development for years to come.

At the same time, AIPLA has remained steadfast in its commitment to serving the profession through advocacy. This year, we continued our work with Congress and submitted comments on a broad range of domestic and international policy matters, including proposals before the USPTO, the U.S. Copyright Office, WIPO, and intellectual property offices in the United Kingdom, China, and India. We also continued to advance the development of IP law by filing amicus briefs in significant cases.

Education has remained at the heart of our mission. Throughout the year, AIPLA brought practitioners together through conferences, institutes, webinars, committee programming, and signature events, including the Corporate Practice Institute, Patent Prosecution Boot Camp, Trade Secret Summit, World IP Day on Capitol Hill, the Advanced Chemical & Biotech Patent Institute, and Trademark Boot Camp. We also published the 2025 Economic Survey, providing meaningful benchmarking data and insights that support informed decision-making across the profession.

Beyond our borders, I was honored to represent AIPLA through international delegations to Japan, Europe, Latin America, India, Taiwan, and the UAE, as well as at the IP5 Heads of Office Meeting. These engagements helped to strengthen relationships with our global counterparts.

While I am proud of everything we've accomplished together this year, I am even more optimistic about where AIPLA is headed. The conversations I've had with students and emerging professionals have reminded me that our Association's greatest responsibility is not only to serve today's practitioners, but to prepare tomorrow's leaders. By continuing to invest in education, advocacy, mentorship, and community, AIPLA is well positioned to remain the trusted professional home for intellectual property practitioners at every stage of their careers.

Thank you to our volunteers, committee leaders, speakers, authors, staff, and members for your dedication to AIPLA and to the advancement of intellectual property. Your engagement is what makes this Association strong, and it has been an honor to serve as your President.

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



Foundational

Strengthen operations to serve members and fulfill our mission.



Advocacy

Lead policy discussions shaping IP law at home and abroad.



Membership/ Commmunity

Build connections and foster community through networking and mentoring.



Education

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

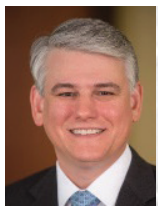
Join us at **www.aipla.org** and be part of shaping the future of intellectual property.

Board of Directors

Executive Committee



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President
Barley Snyder



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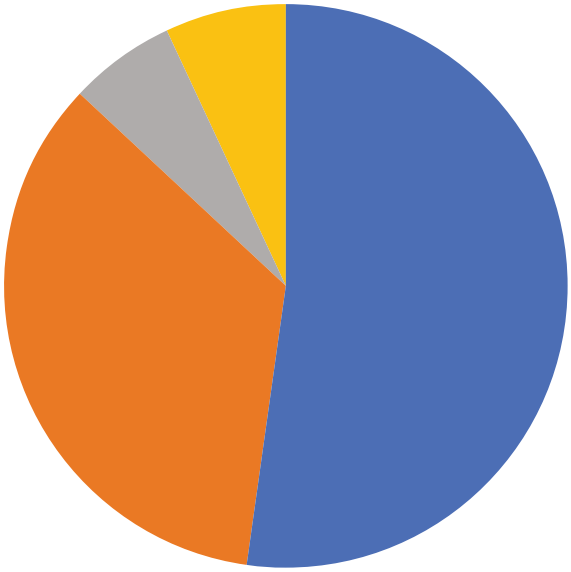
John Salazar
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Louisville, KY

Richard Stockton
Banner Witcoff
Chicago, IL



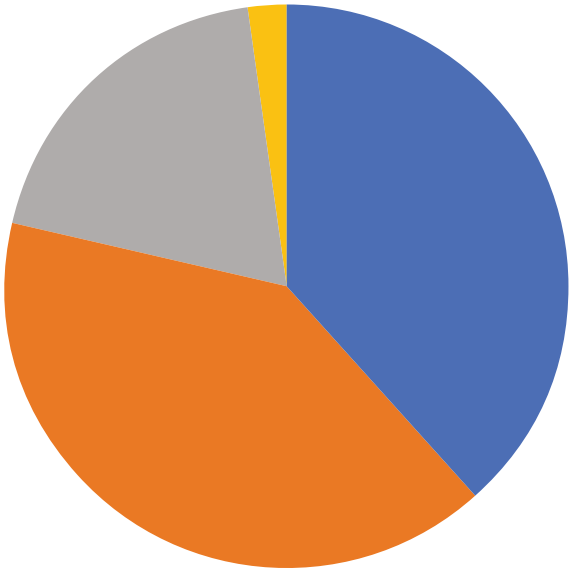
*Not pictured: Stephanie Bald, Brad Chin, and Christal Sheppard

2026 Financials



Total Revenue: $4,887,094.00

Meetings & Events:	**53%**
Membership Dues:	**35%**
Advertising & Royalties:	**6%**
Interest, Publications, and Other Income	**7%**



Total Expense: $5,090,789.00*

Membership Services:	**38%**
Meetings & Events:	**40%**
General & Administrative:	**19%**
Publications:	**2%**

* Note: The Association made strategic investments in technology services to enhance operations and improve member experience, which contributed to a net loss for the year.


HOFFMANN EITLE
American University
Washington College of Law
WASHINGTON, DC
Registrant
STUDENT MEMBER
MENTEE
Diva
HOFFMANN EITLE
American University
Washington College of Law
SPRINGFIELD, VA
Registrant
STUDENT MEMBER
BE HAPPY!

Member Services

From world-class CLE, professional development, and skills-based training to exclusive networking, AIPLA membership gives you the tools, connections, and we're investing in the future to better serve the IP community. Watch for new services and benefits coming soon!

Growth & Development

- Career Center with IP-specific job listings
- Mentoring and skills development opportunities
- Member discounts on events & webinars

Involvement

- 60+ committees for specialized networking
- Leadership opportunities
- 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 – 24,200 +

Instagram – 1,300+

X –13,700+

Facebook – 6,000+

6 **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.







6

Boot Camps & Roadshows in **Austin**, **Chicago**, and **Washington DC**, with **3385** minutes of CLE

6,115

total minutes of CLE









3

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

2026 at a Glance

8

CLE Webinars – Totaling **870** minutes of CLE

Special Programs

World IP Day celebration with Congress & USPTO leaders

2

Stated Meetings in **San Francisco** and **Washington, DC** - with **2000 +** attendees from around the world and **1740** minutes of CLE









During our World IP Day celebration on Capitol Hill, attendees heard from **Senators Thom Tillis, Marsha Blackburn, Chris Coons, and Adam Schiff.**

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

AIPLA continued to advocate for clarity and balance in intellectual property law through amicus participation in significant cases before the U.S. Supreme Court and federal appellate courts.

During the reporting period, AIPLA filed amicus briefs addressing patent eligibility under 35 U.S.C. § 101 in *USAA v. PNC Bank;* induced infringement and "skinny labeling" in *Hikma Pharmaceuticals USA Inc. v. Amarin Pharma, Inc.*; the proper standard for design-patent infringement in *Range of Motion Products, LLC v. Armaid Company, Inc.*; and the application of 28 U.S.C. § 1498(a) to government-authorized patent infringement in *Arbutus Biopharma Corp. v. Moderna, Inc.* AIPLA also filed an amicus brief in *RiseandShine Corp. v. PepsiCo, Inc.*, urging the Supreme Court to treat a trademark's conceptual strength as a question of fact rather than law.

Legislative Advocacy

AIPLA continued to engage with Members of Congress and staff from the House and Senate on legislation affecting the intellectual property system. Key priorities included patent eligibility, USPTO fee-setting authority, Patent Trial and Appeal Board reform, digital replicas, customs enforcement, cybersquatting, online infringement, and pharmaceutical patent policy.

AIPLA supported the Patent Eligibility Restoration Act and submitted a letter for the record in connection with the Senate Judiciary Subcommittee's July 2026 hearing on patent eligibility. Throughout the year, AIPLA monitored and engaged on a number of legislative matters, including the NO FAKES Act, proposals affecting pharmaceutical patents and "skinny labels," site-blocking legislation, artificial intelligence, protection, and reforms to proceedings before the PTAB among other emerging IP issues.

AIPLA also attended congressional hearings and provided policymakers with legal analysis and subject-matter expertise on USPTO and Copyright Office oversight, artificial intelligence, prescription-drug competition, online infringement, and other developing IP issues.

Government Agency Engagement

AIPLA worked directly with the USPTO, U.S. Copyright Office, and other federal agencies to provide practical perspectives from intellectual property practitioners and stakeholders.

During the reporting period, AIPLA submitted comments to the USPTO on proposed changes to proceedings before the Patent Trial and Appeal Board, recognition of foreign patent practitioners, examination guidance for design applications involving computer-generated interfaces and icons, and proposed real-party-in-interest disclosure requirements for third-party ex parte reexamination requests. These submissions addressed procedural fairness, predictability, confidentiality, examination quality, and the practical effects of proposed changes on patent owners and applicants.

AIPLA also submitted comments to the Copyright Office regarding alternative registration-fee structures and the proposed expansion of group registration for updates to news websites. In addition, AIPLA members met with Copyright Office leadership to discuss modernization, the Copyright Claims Board, artificial intelligence, and other issues affecting the copyright system.

International Outreach

AIPLA continued to advance strong and harmonized intellectual property protections through engagement with foreign governments, international organizations, and intellectual property offices worldwide.

This year, AIPLA submitted comments supporting U.S. accession to the World Intellectual Property Organization's Riyadh Design Law Treaty and provided its perspective to the Enlarged Board of Appeal of the European Patent Office in referral G 1/25. AIPLA also submitted comments to Chinese authorities regarding proposed amendments to the Trademark Law, prioritized patent examination procedures, and judicial interpretations affecting intellectual property disputes.

AIPLA further contributed to the development of international IP policy through AIPPI study questions and participation in meetings and programs involving WIPO, IP5, ID5, TM5, and other international partners. AIPLA delegations also met with government officials, judges, practitioners, and intellectual property organizations across Asia, Europe, Latin America, and the Middle East to exchange perspectives on emerging legal and policy developments.













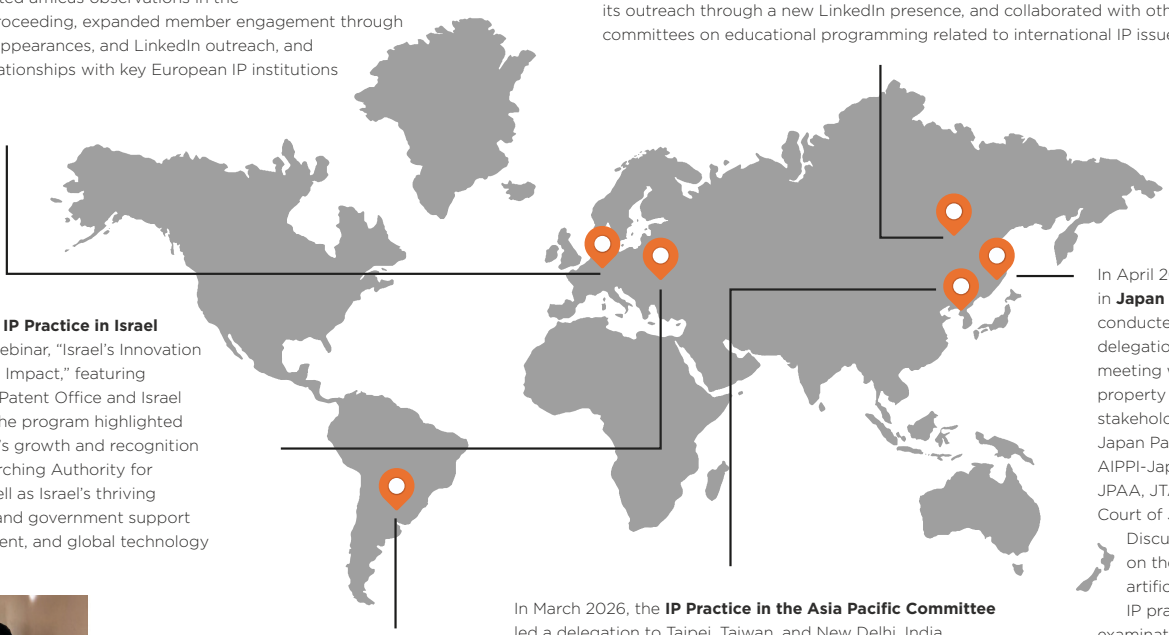

AIPLA

International Engagement

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

During 2026, the **IP Practice in Europe Committee** strengthened transatlantic engagement through monthly educational programming, advocacy before the European Patent Office (EPO), and its annual delegation trip to Europe. The committee conducted a four-city delegation to London, Paris, and The Hague, meeting with European IP offices, professional associations, and practitioners to discuss patent quality, AI-related IP issues, Unitary Patent developments, and comparative U.S.-European IP law. The committee also submitted amicus observations in the EPO's G 1/25 referral proceeding, expanded member engagement through publications, podcast appearances, and LinkedIn outreach, and continued fostering relationships with key European IP institutions and stakeholders.

During 2026, the **IP Practice in China Committee** remained active in advocacy, education, and international engagement. The committee submitted comments to the China National Intellectual Property Administration (CNIPA) on proposed measures for prioritized patent examination and contributed to AIPLA feedback on proposed amendments to China's Trademark Law and patent infringement judicial interpretations. The committee also held regular meetings to provide updates on key developments in Chinese IP law, advanced planning for AIPLA's 2026 delegation trip to China, expanded its outreach through a new LinkedIn presence, and collaborated with other AIPLA committees on educational programming related to international IP issues.



In November 2025, the **IP Practice in Israel Committee** hosted a webinar, "Israel's Innovation Blueprint: From Idea to Impact," featuring leaders from the Israel Patent Office and Israel Innovation Authority. The program highlighted the Israel Patent Office's growth and recognition as an International Searching Authority for PCT applications, as well as Israel's thriving innovation ecosystem and government support for research, development, and global technology commercialization.

In April 2026, the IP Practice in **Japan Committee** conducted its annual delegation trip to Japan, meeting with key intellectual property organizations and stakeholders, including the Japan Patent Office (JPO), AIPPI-Japan, LES Japan, JPAA, JTA, the IP High Court of Japan, and JIPA. Discussions focused on the growing use of artificial intelligence in IP practice and patent examination, developments in standard essential patent (SEP) litigation and mediation, and evolving copyright and fair use issues related to AI. The delegation also strengthened relationships with Japanese IP organizations through professional exchanges, educational programs, and networking events.





IP Practice in Europe Committee during their delegation trip

In March 2026, the **IP Practice in Latin America** conducted its annual delegation trip, this year to Mexico, to engage with key intellectual property stakeholders, including Mexico's Copyright Office (INDAUTOR), the Mexican Institute of Industrial Property (IMPI), the U.S. Embassy in Mexico, and the Mexican Association of IP Professionals (AMPPI). The delegation explored developments in Mexican patent, trademark, and copyright law, discussed opportunities for international collaboration, and participated in the Trilateral IP Cup alongside IP professionals from the United States, Mexico, and Canada.

In March 2026, the **IP Practice in the Asia Pacific Committee** led a delegation to Taipei, Taiwan, and New Delhi, India, providing members with valuable insights into local IP practices and fostering lasting international relationships. The delegation engaged with a broad range of stakeholders, including the Taiwan Patent Attorney Association, Taiwan Intellectual Property Office, Industrial Technology Research Institute, and National Yang Ming Chiao Tung University. In India, meetings with government, judicial, and business leaders, including representatives from the U.S. Embassy, the Delhi High Court, the Indian Patent Office, and leading industry organizations, highlighted the continued growth and strength of India's innovation and intellectual property ecosystem.



IP Practice in Japan Delegtion with JPAA



IP Practice in Japan Delegation



IP Practice in China Committee Chair and Vice Chair, Jennifer Che and Ping Cao





IP Practice in Latin America during their delegation trip



IP Practice in China Committee





IP Practice in Asia Pacific Committee during their Delegation Trip

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 George Washington University Law.

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

Stay Current

AIPLA Direct – Rapid case and legislation updates.

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

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 2025 Annual Meeting, AIPLA recognized outstanding contributions, leadership, and innovation from our members. **Stay tuned for the 2026 awardees to be announced throughout the 2026 Annual Meeting.**



AIPLA Excellence Award

Presented to
Margaret A. Boulware
Boulware & Valoir



Mentor of the Year Award

Presented to
Melissa Buss
3M



President's Outstanding Service Award

Presented to
James Crowne
Bowie, MD



Jan Jancin Award

Presented to
Gershon Sng
Georgetown University Law Center



AIPLA Past President's Award

Presented to
Kylie Snow
Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law at Arizona State University



Maurice Klitzman Award

Presented to
Abigail Idokogi
Procter and Gamble



Coordinator of the Year

Presented to
Erin Block
Godfrey & Kahn, S.C.



Diversity Champion

Presented to
James D. Smith
Former Chief Judge of the Patent Trial and Appeal Board
(presented posthumously)



Committee of the Year

Presented to
Patent Agents Committee
Presented to **Wade Lin** of W&A Intellectual Property Law and **Brian Trotter** of Bishop Rock



Robert C. Watson Award

Presented to
Blake A. Chrismer
University of Tulsa College of Law



AIPLA Project Award

Presented to
The organizers of the 2025 Leadership Forum, presented to **Michael Stewart** of Fishman Stewart, and **Stephanie Bald** of Kelly IP

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 Friedman
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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