About AIPLA

Founded in 1897, AIPLA is a national bar association of approximately 7,000 members engaged in private or corporate practice, in government service, and in the academic community. AIPLA members represent a wide and diverse spectrum of individuals, corporations, and institutions involved directly or indirectly in the practice of patent, trademark, copyright, trade secret, and unfair competition law, as well as other fields of law affecting intellectual property. Our members represent both owners and users of intellectual property. Our mission includes helping establish and maintain fair and effective laws and policies that stimulate and reward invention while balancing the public’s interest in healthy competition, reasonable costs, and basic fairness.

Mission

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.

Core Values

Pursuit of Excellence: A dedication to the improvement of the intellectual property system by being a thought leader for intellectual property, providing advanced professional development, and serving as a strong collective voice to champion innovation and creativity.

Commitment: An enduring belief in the essential importance of an intellectual property system that promotes innovation and creativity through our community of engaged IP professionals.

Advocacy: AIPLA will provide crucial leadership and unbiased analysis leading the way for world-class policy and decision-making, while attracting membership, ideas, and resources as a highly sought after and respected leader in IP.

Collaboration: A strong, diverse, and supportive community of IP professionals working together as a collective champion for innovative and creative solutions to issues facing the IP system and its stakeholders.

Strategic Goals

Foundational: Activities designed to support stewardship of member resources and their application to the Mission, mission-based goals, and the supporting organizational structure and staff of AIPLA.

Advocacy: Activities designed to improve the legal/regulatory climate within which IP is practiced, including but not limited to, awareness, understanding and acceptance of consistent IP laws and regulations within and across relevant jurisdictions.

Membership/Community: Activities designed to improve membership acquisition and retention and to improve participants’ engagement with AIPLA.

Education: Activities designed to identify and build the IP, legal or practice, competencies of a target audience.

View the Strategic Plan in full here: https://www.aipla.org/about/strategic-plan

2023 Financials

Total Revenue: $5,237,238.00
- Meetings & Events: 53%
- Membership Dues: 40%
- Advertising & Royalties: 6%
- Interest, Publications, and Other Income: 2%

Total Expense: $4,940,080.00
- Membership Services: 35%
- Meetings & Events: 47%
- General & Administrative: 16%
- Publications: 2%
It has been an honor and privilege to serve as AIPLA’s President this year. This year, in addition to continuing our strong, deep history of advocacy, education, CLE, and meetings (both in-person and web-based), we adopted a new Strategic Plan and made some bold programming choices to give us flexibility to design programming and events to support our members. We are also reviewing and innovating across our committees and educational programs; capitalizing on a plethora of advocacy opportunities; and mapping out strategic activities to position our Association for success well into the future.

With respect to the Strategic Plan, this will not be a plan that is adopted and placed on the shelf. Instead, under the direction of Second Vice President (Sal Anastasi), the Board has formed Committees to take actionable steps to move each of the four elements of the plan forward for the betterment of AIPLA:

- Foundational
- Advocacy
- Membership
- Education

As you may notice, the first letters spell FAME. I am sure you will hear more about changes from the Committees in the coming year. AIPLA is indeed marching into the future and I’m extremely proud of what we’ve accomplished.

Our committees continue to be the source of much of AIPLA’s most important work. I wish to extend thanks to all of the leaders of the committees and to the many, many dedicated members of AIPLA. The level of engagement and quality of the committee work is awesome. On a somewhat related note, one of our newest committees, the Special Committee on Privacy and Data Security will become a regular committee under President - Elect, Ann Mueting. This committee provides a terrific forum for education, outreach, member services, advocacy, and professional development in this important and rapidly advancing field.

We continue to enhance the membership experience at our various meetings. One of the most exciting aspects of working with AIPLA is the variety of high-level events we produce this past year. Our talented headquarters staff and dedicated volunteers held many successful meetings, seminars, boot camps, summits, and roadshows across the country this past year. These meetings help keep our members from the United States and around the world connected and engaged – and for those members that are unable to attend one of our Stated Meetings, an opportunity to learn, obtain CLE, and engage with their colleagues and friends. One final note about AIPLA’s Stated Meetings: we will be returning to Washington, D.C. for the Annual Meeting beginning in 2025.

On the advocacy front, our efforts remained strong this year. As noted in previous Annual Reports, advocacy matters because it allows us to proactively impact the direction of IP law and our profession. AIPLA’s advocacy also amplifies our individual voices to a level that is heard and understood domestically and internationally. Our advocacy includes engaging with and educating decision-makers to promote outcomes and to increase our impact on legislation, regulations, on national and international policy.

With the support of our Committees, the Association maintained our position as expert advocates for a well-balanced intellectual property system. We helped shape legislation and regulations both domestically and internationally. We continue to track and participate as an amicus in cases before the Supreme Court of the United States and Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit. This year we also filed an amicus brief in Virginia State appellate court on trade secret damages. We submitted suggestions via comment letters to a variety of U.S. government agencies and foreign IP offices, among others. We completed AIPLA delegation trips internationally to meet and learn about international intellectual property systems, organizations, offices, courts, and enforcement actions.

The Annual Report is hardly the only publication that we produce. Our regular publications include the Quarterly Journal in partnership with the George Washington University Law School, INNOVATE Magazine, eBulletin, daily Lexology, Report of the Economic Survey, the new Quarterly Policy Memo, and others.

In our busy world, we have so many commitments, conflicting priorities, and hectic schedules, but getting together face-to-face at our meetings does so much more than earning CLE credits. Those meetings advance many of the organization’s projects, papers, and positions -- as well as develop professional relationships and make friends. So like many AIPLA Presidents before me, I would like to thank all of our members who attended our Mid-Winter Institute in San Diego and the Spring Meeting in Seattle. Which brings me to our Annual Meeting. This year’s event will have great opportunities for learning, networking, collaborating, and reconnecting. We are offering tremendous educational opportunities, high level speakers, and fantastic networking functions. I have no doubt this will be a fun and rewarding event.

I am excited for the direction of the Association as I complete my term as President. My AIPLA journey started over thirty years ago attending Electronic and Computer Law Committee meetings whenever I could. It led to speaking opportunities at committee meetings, roadshows and eventually plenary meetings. It led to chairing several committees and to developing a large professional network - many of whom have become dear friends, and to having a voice in the direction of my profession.

For those members not yet involved with a committee, I encourage you to become involved. You won’t be disappointed.

On behalf of the entire leadership team, thank you for your continued support of AIPLA.

Brian H. Batzli, AIPLA President, 2022-2023

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Member Services

The Association’s priority is first to always serve its member. AIPLA does this by offering a variety of professional resources, networking opportunities, unparalleled CLE, industry news, legislative and policy advocacy, and opportunities that foster both personal and professional growth. We continue to stand for the ongoing development of professionals in the field and the advancement of intellectual property law.

GROWTH & DEVELOPMENT

No matter what your personal and professional goals are, your AIPLA membership supplies the tools and resources you need to thrive and a Member Services team that is dedicated to helping you access them. From IP focused education, to career development content, mentoring programs, and leadership opportunities, AIPLA has you covered. Plus, we have a robust online Career Center that helps you connect with top talent or land your dream job. Check out three IP-related jobs in each edition of Notes + News.

INvolvement

AIPLA’s vibrant community of IP practitioners provides invaluable opportunities to bring people together and make connections. There are numerous ways to get involved and network, including through both in-person and virtual events, mentoring activities, and committee programs. In fact, we believe that joining committees of interest is the easiest way to get involved - and make the most of your membership. Committees provide access to additional member benefits, focused programs, leadership opportunities, and ways to build your professional network, reach potential clients, and make new friends through smaller groups with common interests. For more information about getting involved with AIPLA Committees, please visit our website.

RESOURCES

AIPLA catalogues and maintains a robust archive of electronic resources that members have full access to on-demand. Our Library of Session Materials is a comprehensive resource that includes papers, transcripts, and presentations on a vast array of substantive topics. We also maintain both a List of Arbitrators and Mediators, and a library of sample IP licensing agreements that members may reference as needed. AIPLA also produces several additional publications, including Model Patent Jury Instructions and Model Patent Rules, and issues timely press releases on topical matters.

Visit our Member Center to learn more about all the resources available to AIPLA members.

SOCIAL MEDIA

AIPLA maintains a robust social media presence across LinkedIn, Facebook, Instagram, and X (formerly Twitter). Follow our accounts for regular updates on our programming, advocacy efforts, AIPLA initiatives, member achievements, and industry news. In 2023, we launched a new initiative - #MemberTipMonday - a weekly reminder of all the many benefits of AIPLA membership. Follow us on social media for your weekly dose of #MTM. We continue to have one of the largest social media presence of any IP association and are continually growing our digital footprint to reach our members. Be sure to follow us on X at @aipla, @aipladc on Instagram, and find us on Facebook and LinkedIn. Repshare our content to help promote our efforts.

DESIGN DAY

We were thrilled to be back in person for the 16th Annual Design Day. We were proud to partner with the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) and Intellectual Property Owners Association (IPO) for a full day of lively and thought-provoking discussion about various aspects of design patents. The program drew over 300 design patent practitioners and USPTO professionals.

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.

Did You Know!

AIPLA members can:

- Acquire professional liability and cyber liability insurance at discounted rates.
- Access a vast library of CLE presentations and materials at little or no charge.
PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT WEBINARS

2023 had many landmark cases and important updates in the IP industry. AIPLA held several Rapid Response, Direct Live, and Professional Development webinars to discuss these cases and their impact.

CLE WEBINARS

CLE accredited webinars were held every month to allow for enrichment and continuing education for all subdisciplines of practitioners, totaling 19.5 hours of CLE credit.

To view upcoming live webinars, please visit www.aipla.org/webinars.

COMMITTEE LEADERSHIP WEBINARS

Beginning in May, we began holding a webinar every other month to train committee leaders on best practices, provide updates, and provide a forum to answer questions.

ONLINE LEARNING ACADEMY

The AIPLA Online Learning Academy laid the framework for the Association to continue compiling a robust catalogue of live and on-demand programming. These quality, IP-focused CLE and professional development webinars are sorted by practice area and topics, and are a member-exclusive benefit. The online programs have been created for busy IP practitioners by leading industry experts to help practitioners stay up to date with trends and changes in the law. To access the Online Learning Academy, please visit www.pathlms.com/aipla.

BOOT CAMPS AND ROAD SHOWS

In 2023, AIPLA hosted boot camps, road shows, and other multi-day programs, including:

Virtual Design Rights Boot Camp (840 Minutes of CLE)
Trade Secret Summit (570 Minutes of CLE)
Trademark Boot Camp (960 Minutes of CLE)

Additionally, AIPLA hosted our Mid-Winter, Spring, and Annual Stated Meetings for a total of over 2,670 minutes of CLE.

WORLD IP DAY

AIPLA co-hosted a standing-room only event in honor of 2023 World Intellectual Property Day to celebrate this year’s theme – Women and IP: Accelerating Innovation and Creativity. We were joined by both congressional leaders on IP issues, Sen. Chris Coons, Chair of the Senate Judiciary IP Subcommittee, and Rep. Darrell Issa, Chair of the House IP Subcommittee, as well as USPTO Director Kathi Vidal, Register of Copyrights Shira Perlmutter, several women entrepreneurs, and more. Sen. Mazie Hirono generously sponsored the event on Capitol Hill.
Advocacy

A longtime pillar of AIPLA, advocacy activities serve the membership by representing members’ interests via advocacy with the judiciary, on Capitol Hill, and with relevant government agencies and organizations. While AIPLA headquarters lead and execute on behalf of members, committees play an active and vital role in the development of AIPLA’s policy agenda. For example, committees will call attention to potential legislative and amicus issues of importance. Initiatives like legislation tracking, amicus brief development, and drafting position statements, all work toward maintaining a robust and well-balanced IP system and each deliver on and enhance the value of your AIPLA membership.

Judicial Advocacy


Capitol Hill

AIPLA continued to be a presence on Capitol Hill, meeting with key policymakers, attending relevant hearings, and advocating for an effective and balanced IP system. Aligned with the Advocacy strategic goal, we work to ensure that policy makers recognize AIPLA as an effective, credible, and useful resource on intellectual property law. For example, AIPLA issued a supportive statement upon the introduction of the Patent Eligibility Restoration Act of 2023.

On the House of Representatives side, our policy team tracked issues and attended hearings on the Right to Repair, Oversight of the USPTO, Artificial Intelligence, and the implementation of the Music Modernization Act. On the Senate side, the team engaged on several issues and monitored hearings on Foreign Competitive Threats to American Innovation and Economic Leadership, and the Intersection of Artificial Intelligence and Intellectual Property. Additionally, we submitted a letter to the Senate in support of Deborah Robinson as the Intellectual Property Enforcement Coordinator (IPEC).

Government Agencies

AIPLA continued to be a prominent voice with the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Copyright Office, and other relevant agencies and courts. In the past 12 months, AIPLA submitted over 25 comments to various agencies. The subjects include the USPTO’s Advance Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (ANPRM), Trademark and Patent Fee Setting and Adjusting Proposal to the TPAC and PPAC, Robustness and Reliability of Patents, DOCX, Patent Pro Bono Programs, AI and Inventorship, EPO Guidelines for Examination, FTC Non-Compete Clause, and more. All our comments and advocacy work can be found here: aipla.org/advocacy.
International Outreach

AIPLA continued its advocacy work internationally, participating in the WIPO General Assembly in Geneva, in the IP5 Heads of Office Meeting in Hawaii, the TMS and ID5 Meetings, the Tri lateral Offices Meeting with Industry in Munich, as well as issuing several comments, such as letters to China’s State Administration of Market Regulation and to the EU on Standard Essential Patents.

IP Practice in Israel

The IP Practice in Israel Committee held a webinar in conjunction with the Emerging Technologies Committee and was pleased to participate in the Women in IP Committee’s Global Networking Event. The Committee continued distributing monthly bulletins to committee members regarding any IP/Israel-related events.

IP Practice in China

The IP Practice in China Committee serves AIPLA members interested in IP in China, facilitating connections with Chinese IP professionals and studying Chinese IP law. Their current projects include collaborating with the USPTO, participating in Global Sector Leadership conferences, and engaging with other committees to provide input on Chinese IP matters. They also hold monthly meetings to discuss Chinese IP law changes and have previously submitted comments on anti-monopoly guidelines in partnership with other committees. Future plans include a potential 2024 AIPLA trip to China, pending geopolitical conditions.

IP Practice in the Far East

The IP Practice in the Far East Committee completed its delegation to Vietnam and Korea, led by co-chairs Thomas Treutler and Toby Mak, together with AIPLA President Brian Batzli and Immediate Past President Patrick Coyne, with a total of 14 delegates. In Vietnam, the delegation visited the AmCham, Vietnam IP Association, and the Vietnam IP Office. In Korea, the delegation visited the KIPO, Korean IP High Court, KNIPA (an industrial IP in-house in Korea), and KPAA. There were fruitful exchanges between the delegation and the visited parties, including updates on the Vietnamese and Korean practice, and the updates on the US practice by the delegation to the visited parties.

IP Practice in Japan

The IP Practice in Japan Committee, led by co-chairs Don Studebaker and Kevin Kunzendorf, completed its annual delegation trip to Japan in April, made more memorable since it was the first trip post-pandemic. The committee met with the JPO, AIIPPI/JFBA, US Embassy, LES-J, Women in IP, JPAA, IP High Court, JTA and JIPA. Some highlights of the trip included meeting with JPO Commissioner Hamano, a visit to the new IP High Court facility in Naka-Meguro, well-received panel discussions on parody with the JTA and law practice under the work-from-home system, and a mock presentation on how Japanese stakeholders can be more involved in US litigation. Substantively, the topic of the trip was AI - both substantive patenting of AI-related inventions and its potential effects on law firm practice – with almost every organization having an AI topic component. Additionally, there were comparative law discussions from high-profile trademark cases to enforcement of IP in a digital world, cross-border infringement, and international patent exhaustion. The trip culminated in a well-attended reception at the Roppongi Hills Club. The delegation was joined by Board Member Todd Baker and Immediate Past President Patrick Coyne.

IP Practice in Europe

The IP Practice in Europe Committee, led by co-chairs Ryan Pool and Elisabetta Papa, organized a trip focused on meetings with IP authorities, namely the EPO, WIPO, UPC (Munich Local Division) and EUIPO. In six days, the delegation including immediate AIPLA Past President, Patrick Coyne, and President-Elect, Ann Mueting—visited Germany, Switzerland, and Spain, in each country discussing relevant IP issues about development of law and practice.

IP Practice in Latin America

While in Panama, the delegation, led by co-chairs Edwin Molino and Ignacio Sanchez, held meetings with the Panamanian Supreme Court, the U.S. Embassy, Director of the Copyright Office, the Panamanian IP Associations—which organized a Women in IP Law Breakfast—and much more. In Costa Rica, the delegation met with the Directors of the Costa Rican National Registry, which includes The Patent and Trademark Office and the Copyright Office, the five Justices of the Administrative Court of Appeals, the American Chamber of Commerce, the U.S. Embassy, Civil Court Superior Judge, and District Attorney. The trip was joined by AIPLA President, Brian Batzli, and Immediate Past President, Patrick Coyne.

AIPPI-US

The AIPPI-US was originally founded as a non-profit organization in 1930 and has approximately 300 members. Membership in AIPPI-US automatically includes membership in AIPPI. The United States has one of the largest representations on the International Executive Committee - the principal decision-making body of AIPPI.
Publications

**AIPLA Report of the Economic Survey**

The biennial Report of the Economic Survey is one of the premier and most sought-after publications of the Association. The Economic Survey’s results are often cited in judicial opinions, analyzed by research firms, and used by law firms and policy makers. AIPLA members can access the newly released 2023 Report.

**AIPLA Quarterly Journal**

The AIPLA Quarterly Journal is a scholarly publication of the American Intellectual Property Law Association, produced through a collaboration with the George Washington University Law School. For over 50 years, the Quarterly Journal has been dedicated to presenting materials relating to intellectual property matters and is published four times per year.

The Special Anniversary Edition was published in January 2023, and featured articles from luminaries like Register of Copyrights Shira Perlmutter, USPTO Director Kathi Vidal, Chief Judge Kimberly Moore, Judge Pauline Newman, and more.

**AIPLA Direct**

AIPLA Direct is an exclusive online information service that delivers substantive and concise updates and analyses on cases, rulemaking, legislation, and industry developments. AIPLA published numerous Directs this year in response to Supreme Court cases such as Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts, Inc. v. Goldsmith, Amgen Inc. v. Sanofi, Jack Daniel’s Properties v. VIP Products LLC, and Abitron Austria GmbH v. Hetronic International, Inc.

**AIPLA eBulletin**

The eBulletin is a digital publication that follows each of AIPLA’s stated meetings and provides an update from the President, a recap of events and sessions, and a platform for committees to share their projects and accomplishments with members.

**INNOVATE Magazine**

INNOVATE is the online magazine by and for AIPLA members, from IP law students to retired practitioners. INNOVATE features magazine-like articles on a wide variety of topics in IP law. All AIPLA members, but especially law students, are strongly encouraged to submit articles by emailing innovate@aipla.org.

**AIPLA Newsstand**

Our partnership with Lexology helps AIPLA share daily developments in IP. The AIPLA Newsstand arrives daily, but members can opt to receive Lexology as frequently as they would like, and can filter stories based on their interest in a particular area of IP or region of the world.

**Notes + News**

AIPLA members can look forward to our bimonthly Notes + News, a newsletter released every other Tuesday featuring committee news, AIPLA news, a roundup of upcoming events, featured jobs in our Career Center, and more. Committees are encouraged to submit news they would like featured in Notes + News.

**Quarterly Policy Memo**

In July 2023, we launched the new AIPLA Quarterly Policy Memo, a roundup of all of AIPLA’s advocacy efforts during each quarter, as well as relevant news from IP-related agencies, Capitol Hill, and events of note. We are also pleased to feature a member each quarter who has contributed in a significant way to AIPLA’s advocacy efforts.
Awards
AIPLA is proud to honor the following 2022-2023 award recipients:

**AIPLA Excellence Award**
Presented to
Honorable Kathleen O’Malley
Former Judge, United States Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit

**President’s Outstanding Service Award**
Presented to
William L. LaFuze
McKool Smith
Houston, TX

**AIPLA Project Award**
For Their Efforts on Advocacy Related to the USPTO’s DOCX Initiative
Presented to
Rachel Kahler
General Mills
Minneapolis, MN

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

Angela Sebor
Tolmar
Lyons, CO

Theresa Stadheim
Schwegman Lundberg & Woessner, P.A.
Minneapolis, MN

**Robert C. Watson Award**
Presented to
Kelsey Weinman
Arizona State University, Sandra Day O’Connor Law School
Phoenix, AZ

**Jan Jancin Award**
Presented to
SaiPranay Vellala
University of Akron School of Law
Akron, OH

**AIPLA Past President’s Award**
Presented to
Brandon Tuell
George Washington University Law School
Washington, DC

**Coordinator of the Year**
Presented to
Stanton Weinstein
Fort Washington, PA

**Committee of the Year**
Presented to
IP Practice in Europe Committee

Elisabetta Papa
Societa’ Italiana Brevetti S.P.A.
Rome, Italy

Ryan Pool
Millen White, Zelano & Branigan, PC
Arlington, VA

AIPLA is proud to honor the following 2022-2023 award recipients:
2022-2023
Board of Directors

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Merchant & Gould, PC
Minneapolis, MN

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- Vincent Garlock
  Executive Director
- Meghan Donohoe
  Chief Operating Officer
- Marquis Moore
  Operations & Governance Assistant

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
- Simone Unger
  Membership Assistant