



PREVIEW

2026
AIPLA  Annual
MEETING

2026 **AIPLA** ANNUAL MEETING

October 29 - 31 | Washington, DC
Westin DC Downtown

IP Horizons: Navigating
Innovation, AI, and Global Change

Learn • Connect • Engage



United Trademark & Patent Services

Established 1949



In every idea - *a legacy*



Trademarks



IP Litigation &
Dispute Resolution



Patents &
Designs



Brand Protection &
Anti-Counterfeiting



Copyrights



Media &
Entertainment



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Welcome from the Officer-in-Charge

On behalf of AIPLA, I am pleased to invite you to join us this October in Washington, DC, for the 2026 AIPLA Annual Meeting.

This year's theme, **IP Horizons: Navigating Innovation, AI, and Global Change**, reflects a pivotal moment for the intellectual property profession. Rapid advances in artificial intelligence, accelerating technological innovation, and evolving global legal and business developments are reshaping the way we practice and counsel our clients. The Annual Meeting will provide an opportunity to explore these developments, exchange perspectives with colleagues at every stage of their careers, and consider what lies ahead for our profession. In a time of rapid change, both fresh viewpoints and seasoned experience are essential to understanding where IP is headed and how we can help shape its future.

We are assembling a program designed to be both thought-provoking and practical, featuring timely CLE sessions, interactive Skills Workshops, and opportunities to engage with colleagues from across the intellectual property community. Whether your focus is patents, trademarks, copyrights, litigation, licensing, or emerging technologies, you will find valuable insights and meaningful opportunities for professional growth.

Just as importantly, the Annual Meeting offers a chance to reconnect with friends and colleagues, build new relationships, and strengthen the professional community that makes AIPLA unique.

I hope you will join us in Washington this October for what promises to be an engaging and rewarding program. I look forward to welcoming you personally and sharing an exceptional Annual Meeting experience with you.



W. Todd Baker
Officer-in-Charge,
2026 Annual Meeting
AIPLA Second Vice President



General Information

Registration and Exhibit Hours

Wednesday: 4:00 - 7:00 pm

Thursday: 8:00 am - 6:00 pm

Friday: 8:00 am - 6:00 pm

Saturday: 8:00 am - 12:00 NOON

Helpful Hints

- Lunch receptions are open to everyone to meet and network.
- All meeting registrants will have advanced access to meeting materials online and in the app.
- Access to handouts and meeting.
- Papers are available at the on-site Technology Center or via the Meeting App.

CLE Information

The 2026 Annual Meeting offers up to **615** in-person CLE minutes including up to **180** minutes of Ethics CLE, and **270** minutes of Technology CLE for California, Florida, and North Carolina attorneys. Credit amounts will vary by jurisdiction, based upon each jurisdiction's approval, regulations, and credit calculation.

AIPLA is an approved provider by most US states requiring CLE. AIPLA is applying for credit for this meeting to most US jurisdictions. Credit hours will vary by jurisdiction, based upon individual regulations and credit calculation. Complete CLE information will be available on-site at the AIPLA CLE Information Booth. The CLE Information Booth will remain open until 1:00 pm on Saturday.

Skills Workshops

AIPLA will be offering in-depth skills workshops at the Annual Meeting. The workshops offer a chance to learn and engage with instructors in a smaller setting. The workshops will be limited to 20 people and attendees will be required to review any materials the instructor has listed as prerequisites. **CLE will not be offered, and pre-registration for workshops is required.**

General Meeting Sponsors:

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Kelly IP, LLP; Kirkland & Ellis LLP;
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Media Partners & Supporting Organizations:



The Annual Meeting is on Social Media!

I.D.E.

Follow AIPLA on LinkedIn, Facebook, X, and Instagram (@aipladc) and post during the Meeting using the hashtag #aiplaAM26!

All sessions for the Annual Meeting have been approved as Insurance Discount Eligible as part of AIPLA's Professional Liability Insurance Program.

Program as of September 28, 2026
Subject to change.

PROVEN IP MANAGEMENT, POWERED BY BUILT-IN AI

Intelligent systems, tailored services, and expert support for stronger IP operations.

Connected IP Management

Developed in-house, CPI's systems and services bring IP workflows, data, and decisions together in one integrated solution.

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Protect your portfolio with accurate payments, data checks in over 100 countries, ongoing analyst review, unlimited support, and transparent pricing.

INDEPENDENT PATENT AUDIT SERVICE

Strengthen your portfolio data with an audit that verifies status, family members, annuity details, and ownership—ideal for acquisitions, divestitures, and new-client onboarding.

IP MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS

Our all-in-one subscription includes unlimited users, support, hosting, storage, training, and real-time global IP office data.

Disclosure Management for capturing, reviewing new ideas

Patent Management from filing through annuities

Trademark Management including clearance and renewals

General Matters for licensing, litigation, and other IP matters

AI Embedded in CPI

Built directly into CPI's systems, our AI capabilities help protect sensitive IP data within a secure, controlled environment.

Build stronger disclosures as **Idea Foundry** uses AI to guide inventors, assess patentability and portfolio fit, and suggest filing strategies.

Keep work moving as **AI-Powered Task Management** validates and routes tasks.

Save time as **AI Automatic Docketing** identifies correspondence, deadlines, and required actions.

Get answers faster as **Ask Jerry, CPI's AI Assistant**, analyzes portfolio data, evaluates patent landscapes, and provides system guidance.

Reduce compliance risk as **AI for IDS Management** captures citations, organizes art, and auto-populates IDS forms.

Speed processing as **AI Invoice Approval** automates assessments, validation, routing, and posting.

Unlimited Training & Support

Empower your team with unlimited training and direct support from experienced U.S. and European specialists at no additional cost.



SCHEDULE A DEMO

Speak with a CPI advisor to explore the best fit for your team, portfolio, and long-term IP management goals.

IP Practice in Japan Committee Pre-Meeting and Dinner

Tuesday, October 27 - Wednesday, October 28, 2026 • The Westin DC Downtown

The Pre-Meeting is open to all and is a great event for networking with colleagues from Japan. There is an additional cost to attend the Reception and Dinner for IP Practice in Japan Committee.

Day 1 - Registration and breakfast begin at 8:00 am.

Sessions run from

9 am - 12 noon and 1 - 5 pm, with a luncheon from 12 noon - 1 pm.

Day 2 - Registration and breakfast begin at 8:00 am.

Sessions run from

9 am - 12 noon.

Presentations will be provided by the speakers from AIPLA, the Japan Patent Attorney Association (JPAA), and possibly from the International Association for the Protection of the Intellectual Property in Japan (AIPPI- JP), Japan Trademark Association (JTA) and Japan Patent Office (JPO) on a range of topics such as:

1. US: Subject Matter Eligibility - Recent Updates
2. US: PTAB - Developments and Strategies
3. US: SCOTUS Review - Recent Cases and What is Coming Up
4. US: Recent Developments on Trademark Law and Practice
5. Japan: Recent IP High Court Decisions
6. Japan: Post-Grant Opposition Updates
7. Japan: Update on Examination Standards
8. Japan: Recent Developments on Trademark Law and Practice

*Note: Topics are subject to change.

IP Practice in Japan Committee Leadership and Program Coordinators:

Chair, **Nick Mattingly**, Mattingly & Malur, PC and Vice Chair, **Andrew Freistein**, Wenderoth, Lind & Ponack, LLP.

Note: Pre-Meeting Attendees are expected to also register for the 2026 Annual Meeting.

Program Registration:

\$595

Dinner Registration:

\$195

Separate registration required.

Save \$50 by registering for both the IPPJ Pre-Meeting and Annual Meeting.

To register, please visit

www.aipla.org

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PRE-MEETING

Wednesday, October 28, 2026

All times listed are Eastern Time

■ 10:00 AM - 12 Noon

AIPLA Board of Directors' Meeting

■ 1:00 - 5:00 PM

AIPLA Board and Committee Leadership Meeting

■ 4:00 - 7:00 PM

Pre-Registration

If you registered in advance, please stop by and pick up your badge and meeting materials.

■ 6:30 - 8:00 PM

AIPLA Board and Committee Leadership Networking Event

DAY 1

Thursday, October 29, 2026

All times listed are Eastern Time

■ 6:45 - 8:45 AM ⚡

Corporate Practice Committee Breakfast Meeting (In-house practitioners only)

Don't Be the Villain: Brand Enforcement Without the PR Nightmare

Protecting your brand is non-negotiable...until the internet decides you're a bully. Van Leeuwen's ice cream dust-up, Buc-ee's cease-and-desist campaigns, Patagonia's enforcement play book. Recent cases show that how you enforce matters as much as whether you enforce. One heavy-handed letter to the wrong target and your trademark win turns into a PR disaster.



Speakers:

Bea Swedlow, Brian Brookey, Erick Palmer and Andrew Chipouras, Honigman, LLP

Sponsored by: Honigman, LLP

■ 6:45 - 7:45 AM



5k Fun Run

Sponsored by: Spencer Fane, LLP

■ 7:45 - 8:45 AM

Committee Meetings

View the full committee schedule on the Annual Meeting website or in the Meeting App.

■ 7:45 - 8:45 AM

First-Time Attendee & New Member Orientation

First time attending the Annual Meeting? Come to this orientation to get tips and tricks for navigating the meeting.

■ 9:00 - 10:00 AM

OPENING PLENARY



Welcome Remarks

AIPLA President **Salvatore Anastasi** will deliver a year-in-review, highlighting the Association's key initiatives, achievements, and milestones.

AIPLA Committee of the Year to be Announced at the Opening Plenary!



Kick off the Annual Meeting at the Opening Plenary with keynote speaker **Ivan Arvelo**, Director of the National Intellectual Property Rights Coordination Center.

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10:15 AM – 12:00 NOON Concurrent CLE Tracks and Skills Workshops

CONCURRENT CLE TRACK 1 - 10:15 - 11:00 AM

AI as a Patent Drafter: A View from the Client's Side of the Table

While other sessions debate whether patent attorneys should draft with AI, this panel reveals what is already happening inside corporate IP departments. Patent professionals with experience as senior in-house patent leaders will discuss how they are deploying AI as a Patent Drafter (AlaaPD): what work is moving to AI-enabled workflows, how outside counsel roles and pricing are evolving, and how portfolio strategy shifts as drafting costs fall. Joined by the product chief of a global innovation and IP powerhouse, they will discuss the current state and future of AI drafting. This session explores what successful patent practices will look like in the AlaaPD era.

Moderator: Ian Schick, Paximal, Los Angeles, CA

Speakers:

Micheal Binns, ADAPT.legal, Atlanta, GA
Toni Nijm, Anaqua, St. Helier, Jersey
Steve Gong, Google, San Francisco, CA

Hosted by: Emerging Technologies Committee

CONCURRENT CLE TRACK 2 - 10:15 - 11:00 AM

Hiding in Plain Sight: Litigating What is Readily Ascertainable Under the DTSA in the Age of AI

Speakers:

Monty Myers, Eureka Software Solutions, Austin, TX
Jim Pooley, James Pooley PLC, Portola Valley, CA
Patrick Plassio, O'Melveny & Myers, Dallas, TX

SKILLS WORKSHOP A

Navigating Artificial Intelligence Issues in Life Sciences Law

This interactive session examines how ethical challenges in life sciences IP often emerge through everyday decisions, from inventorship and data use to the growing role of AI in innovation. Drawing on perspectives from the USPTO, private practice, and industry, speakers will guide attendees through a real-world case study, fostering discussion and practical insights into identifying and navigating complex ethical issues.

Moderator: Kathleen Ranney, Prince Pines LLC, Andover, MA

Instructors:

Kevin E. Noonan, McDonnell Boehnen Hulbert & Berghoff LLP, Chicago, IL
Teresa Stanek Rea, Rea Consulting LLC, Fairfax Station, VA
Jen Burdman, TRIQUETRA LAW GROUP, Boston, MA

Hosted by: Corporate Practice Committee

CONCURRENT CLE TRACK 1 - 11:15 AM - 12 Noon

IPRs in Focus

With new rules in place and shifting standards, this session highlights what the policy changes have been, the fallout, where we are now and where we are going.

Moderator: Frank L. Bernstein, Squire Patton Boggs, Palo Alto, CA

Speakers:

Michael Parsons, Wolf Greenfield, Plano, TX
Richard Bemben, Sterne, Kessler, Goldstein & Fox, Washington, DC
Brian Goldberg, Smurfit Westrock, Richmond, VA

CONCURRENT CLE TRACK 2 - 11:15 AM - 12 Noon

The Rise of Non-Traditional Trademarks

Discover how brands are protecting their identity in the age of immersive and sensory marketing through non-traditional trademarks, including sounds, motion, colors, scents, and trade dress. Attendees will gain practical insights into emerging trademark trends, real-world examples, and strategies for securing and enforcing these distinctive brand assets in an evolving marketplace.

Speakers:

Garfield Goodrum, Garfield Goodrum Design Law, Boston, MA
Felicia Boyd, Norton Rose Fulbright US LLP, Minneapolis, MN

SKILLS WORKSHOP B

Trademark Prosecution 101

Come learn the basics of trademarks, what is use, what is likelihood of confusion? Designed for those new to trademarks.

Instructor:

Shana Olson, Sterne, Kessler, Goldstein & Fox, Washington, DC

Hosted by: Trademark Law Committee

12:30 – 2:00 PM



Luncheon Keynote: Join us for a Fireside Chat with **Judge Leonard Stark**, Judge, United States Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit.

■ 2:15 - 4:00 PM Concurrent Tracks and Skills Workshops

CONCURRENT CLE TRACK 1 - 2:15 - 3:00 PM

Skinny Labels and Second Medical Uses - Are the US and Europe Going in Opposite Directions?

With the Hikma v. Amarin Supreme Court decision just coming out, it seems like both the US and Europe have recently been looking at the same second medical use issue and going in opposite directions. This panel will include a US practitioner, EP practitioner, and In-house pharma person to discuss this divergence and get the in-house person's reaction on what they are doing in response.

Moderator: Ali Anoff, Procter & Gamble, Cincinnati, OH

Speakers:

Sofia Santoro, Società Italiana Brevetti S.p.A, Milan, Italy
Michael Carrier, Rutgers Law School, Philadelphia, PA
Barbara Fiocco, Foley Hoag, LLP, Boston, MA

Hosted by: Chemical Practice and IP Practice in Europe Committees

CONCURRENT CLE TRACK 1 - 3:15 - 4:15 PM

From Once Upon a Time to Happily Ever After (or Not): Client Intake, Engagement Agreements & Closing Letters

Navigating the journey from initial client intake to the conclusion of a legal relationship is crucial for any law firm. Effective engagement agreements are key to establishing clear boundaries and expectations with clients. We will explore best practices for drafting these agreements to ensure mutual understanding and satisfaction and compliance with the ABA Model Rules of Professional Conduct. Additionally, we will address the importance of properly ending the attorney-client relationship through disengagement or closing letters. Join us as we provide comprehensive insights into managing client relationships from start to finish, ensuring that your firm can achieve its goals while upholding the highest standards of legal practice.

Speakers:

Hope Todd, DC Bar, Washington, DC

Tracy Kepler, AON, Chicago, IL

Elizabeth Simon, Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld LLP, Washington, DC

Hosted by: Committee on the Profession

3:00-3:15 COFFEE BREAK

CONCURRENT CLE TRACK 2 - 2:15 - 3:00 PM

The Legality of Dupes

Trademark dupes are affordable, look-alike products that mimic the design, style, and overall aesthetic of premium brands without utilizing the original brand's logos, registered trademarks, or brand name. While highly popular for offering budget-friendly alternatives, dupes exist in a complex legal gray area concerning trade dress and unfair competition.

Moderator: Megan Carpenter, UNH Franklin Pierce, Concord, NH

Speakers:

Brandon Smith, Morgan, Lewis & Bockius LLP, Costa Mesa, CA

Sydney Redden, IP House, Washington, DC

Markus Bölling, Mitscherlich, Munich, Germany

CONCURRENT CLE TRACK 2 - 3:15 - 4:00 PM

Useful Works: Copyrightable in the EU/US?

Explore how recent European copyright decisions are expanding protection for "useful articles," from furniture and fashion to bicycles and other product designs, and what these developments could mean for brands seeking intellectual property protection beyond traditional design rights. Attendees will gain insights into key EU, UK, and Swiss cases, the evolving relationship between copyright and registered designs, and important differences from U.S. law that may create new opportunities for rights holders.

Moderator: Matt Wagner, Arthēa, White Plains, NY

Speakers:

Verena von Bomhard, Bomhard IP Alicante, Spain

Michael Ritscher, MLL Legal, Zurich, Switzerland

Hosted by: Copyright Law and Design Rights Committees

SKILLS WORKSHOP A

From Presence to Pipeline: Setting the Stage for a Successful Career

The Skills Workshop will equip new lawyers with practical strategies to build their personal brands, leverage LinkedIn for professional growth, lay the groundwork for future business development, and maximize opportunities through conferences and professional associations. Through interactive exercises, participants will gain tools and confidence to strengthen their professional presence and expand their networks.

Instructors:

Bree Vculek, Solve Intelligence, Washington, DC
Fernanda Flores, American Arbitration Association, Los Angeles, CA

Hetal Kushwaha, Kushwaha Business Development Services, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada

Hosted by: Women in IP Law Committee

SKILLS WORKSHOP B

Patent Drafting 101

The workshop is directed to law students, patent agents, and attorneys with little or no experience preparing patent applications, or returning to the field. The workshop will cover essential topics such as best practices for drafting claims and specifications based on the latest case law, as well as interviewing inventors, determining inventorship and handling filing formalities.

Instructors:

Anthony Curtis, Schwegman Lundberg & Woessner, P.A., Chicago, IL

Babak Akhlaghi, Novotech, Washington, DC

Arlene Neal, Neal Blibo LLC, Manassas, VA



■ 4:00 - 6:00 PM

Committee Meetings

[View the full committee schedule on the Annual Meeting website or in the Meeting App.](#)

■ 6:00 - 7:00 PM

New Member/First-Time Attendees Networking Reception

If you are a new AIPLA member and/or this is your **FIRST** AIPLA conference, please join us for an informal networking event.

Sponsored in part by: Morrison Foerster

■ 6:30 - 7:30 PM

Diversity in IP Law Reception

Sponsored in part by: Auto Docs; Baker Botts, LLP; Faegre Drinker Biddle & Reath, LLP; Finnegan, Henderson, Farabow, Garrett & Dunner, LLP; Morrison & Foerster

■ 7:30 - 9:00 PM ⚡

Opening Night Reception: An Evening in the Nation's Capitol

Join us for a vibrant networking reception inspired by the spirit, history, and culture of Washington, DC. Set beneath a canopy of iconic cherry blossoms and surrounded by tributes to the monuments and landmarks that define America's capital city, this immersive experience celebrates both the timeless traditions and modern energy of DC.

From beloved local favorites and historic DC staples to contemporary dishes reflecting the city's diverse and international character, the reception offers a true taste of the Capitol City. Join us for a vibrant networking reception inspired by the spirit, history, and culture of Washington, DC. Set beneath a canopy of iconic cherry blossoms and surrounded by tributes to the monuments and landmarks that define America's capital city, this immersive experience celebrates both the timeless traditions and modern energy of DC.

From beloved local favorites and historic DC staples to contemporary dishes reflecting the city's diverse and international character, the reception offers a true taste of the Capitol City.



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■ 6:45 – 8:45 AM ⚡

Women in IP Law Committee Breakfast Meeting

Speaker: Kristen Crockett, Founder/CEO of The Crockett Collective, Leadership Strategist and Executive Coach

Leading From Any Seat: How to Build Influence, Confidence, and Impact Beyond Your Title

This session equips IP professionals with practical tools to expand their leadership influence and drive impact without waiting for promotion. You'll discover hidden leadership opportunities in your current role, build credibility and trust without formal authority, identify barriers to advancement, and clarify your unique leadership strengths. Leave with concrete strategies to lead with greater confidence and impact immediately.

Sponsored in part by: Foley Hoag, LLP; Merchant & Gould, PC; Solve Intelligence

■ 7:45 – 8:45 AM

Committee Meetings

[View the full committee schedule on the Annual Meeting website and in the Meeting App.](#)

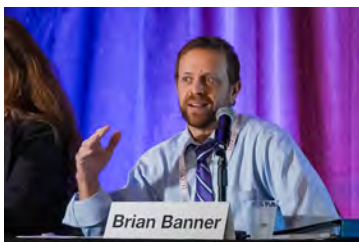
■ 9:00 – 10:00 AM

MORNING PLENARY**Its All About the Prompts...the AI Prompts**

Back by popular demand, Ann McCrackin's AI Prompting Workshop returns with updated strategies and real-world examples reflecting the latest developments in generative AI.

Moderator: Sarah Knight, Talem IP Law, Gainesville, FL

Speaker: Ann McCrackin, UNH Franklin Pierce, Boston, MA



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■ 10:15 AM – 12:00 NOON - Concurrent Tracks and Skills Workshops

CONCURRENT CLE TRACK 1 - 10:15 - 11:00 AM

IP License Agreements in an AI World

AI is creating new challenges for licensing agreements that were never drafted with machine learning, synthetic content, and AI-generated outputs in mind. Through NIL and technology licensing case studies, this panel explores how counsel can identify AI-related risks, evaluate contract language, discuss the inclusion of potentially new concepts, and negotiate clear rights and restrictions. Attendees will gain practical drafting insights, sample approaches to addressing AI uses, and questions to consider when reviewing or negotiating modern license agreements.

Moderator: John Osha, Osha Bergman Watanabe & Burton LLP, Houston, TX

Speakers:

Jessica Ergmann, Sagacity Legal, Cambridge, MA
Ariel Seidner, Duane Morris LLP, New York, NY

CONCURRENT CLE TRACK 1 - 11:15 AM - 12 Noon

Patent Prosecution in the Age of AI

How are leading IP professionals actually using AI today? In this practical session, patent practitioners lift the curtain on their daily workflows. The transition from generative AI to autonomous agents is no longer a future concept—it is actively changing how patents are drafted, prosecuted, and managed. This panel will explore how generative and agentic AI systems are transforming traditional patent prosecution, from initial disclosure evaluation to drafting complex system-level claims. We will address the immediate legal pressures these tools create, including inventorship, ownership of AI-assisted outputs, enablement risks, and the evolving compliance frameworks required to keep proprietary data secure.

Moderator: Michael Chernoff, ClerqIP, Potomac, MD

Speakers:

Erica Fischel, GTC Law Group, Boston, MA
Dennis Parad, DLA Piper, Boston, MA
Brad Fach, University of North Carolina, Charlotte, NC

11:00 - 11:15 AM COFFEE BREAK

CONCURRENT CLE TRACK 2 - 10:15 - 11:00 AM

How the UPC is Reshaping Patent Litigation

The UPC is becoming a major forum for multinational patent disputes. This program examines strategic considerations of the UPC as a forum (such as injunctive relief and recent developments in discovery) and the impact of UPC on co-pending U.S. litigation.

Moderator: John Kolakowski, Nokia, Chevy Chase, MD

Speakers:

Stefan Manzer, Ter Meer, Munich, Germany
Paul Bettridge, Carpmaels & Ransford, London, England
Katherine Peel, Page White Farrer, London, England

CONCURRENT CLE TRACK 2 - 11:15 AM - 12 Noon

Anatomy of a Trade Secret Mega-Verdict: From Litigation Funding to Appeals, A Practical Look At the Key Issues Driving These Cases

Trade secret litigation is increasingly becoming more focused on damages. Because juries are predisposed to favor plaintiffs, there have been many recent large verdicts, including punitive damages, but many have been set aside on appeal.

Speakers:

Mark Klapow, Crowell & Moring LLP, Washington, DC
Stephanie Southwick, Burford Capital, San Francisco, CA
Dawn Hall, FTI Consulting, New York, NY

Hosted by: Trade Secret Law Committee

SKILLS WORKSHOP A

The ABCs of IPRs

Learn the basics of Inter Partes Reexaminations before the USPTO.

Instructors:

David Lindner, Crowell & Moring LLP, Chicago, IL
Timothy Tang, Sterne, Kessler, Goldstein & Fox, Washington, DC
Jason Mudd, Shook, Hardy & Bacon, Kansas City, MO

SKILLS WORKSHOP B

Hands-On Hague Workshop with WIPO: Filing Best Practices & eHague Updates

Join WIPO for a practical workshop on Hague application filing best practices, the latest eHague tools, and recent developments in the Hague System.

Instructor: Sidney Gray, WIPO, Switzerland

■ 12:30 – 2:00 PM

Keynote Luncheon



The Hon. **John A. Squires**, Under Secretary of Commerce for Intellectual Property and Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO), will deliver a keynote address during Friday's luncheon.

The AIPLA Annual Business Meeting will be held from 1:30 - 1:45 PM.



■ 2:15 - 4:00 PM Concurrent Tracks and Skills Workshops

CONCURRENT CLE TRACK 1 - 2:15 - 3:00 PM

Medical Device Litigation: Perspectives from In House and Outside Counsel

Join a panel of in-house and outside counsel as they examine the unique litigation challenges facing medical device companies, from patent portfolio strategy and infringement disputes to trade secret claims and evolving market dynamics.

Moderator: Thomas Broughan, Morrison Foerster, Washington, DC

Speakers:

Mark Blake, Medtronic, Irvine, CA
 Marla Butler, Thompson Hine, LLP, Atlanta, GA
 Mony Ghose, GE Healthcare, Chicago, IL

Hosted by: Patent Litigation Committee

CONCURRENT CLE TRACK 1 - 3:15 - 4:00 PM

The Artificial Inventor Project and DABUS - Lessons Learned Around the World

This panel will discuss the lessons learned and current status of The Artificial Inventor Project and DABUS (Device for the Autonomous Bootstrapping of Unified Sentience), a series of test cases filed with IP offices around the world to explore the possibilities of AI inventorship.

Moderator: Luis Diego Castro, Epoint, Escazú, San Jose, Costa Rica

Speakers:

Ryan Abbott, Brown, Neri, Smith & Kahn LLP
 Filipe Fonteles Cabral, Dannemann Siemsen, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil
 Nobuyuki Tsujimoto, Japan Intellectual Property Association (JIPA), Daikin Industries, Japan
 Jennifer Che, Eagle IP Limited, Hong Kong

Hosted by: Emerging Technologies and IP Practice in Latin America Committees

CONCURRENT CLE TRACK 2 - 2:15 - 3:00 PM

Unchaining the GUI: Navigating the USPTO's and EUIPO's New Frontier for Digital and Immersive Design Rights

This session explores major new developments in UX/UI design protection in both the U.S. and Europe. Recent USPTO guidance simplifies design patent protection for software interfaces and expands eligibility to emerging technologies like AR/VR, holograms, and spatial computing, while the EUIPO now permits video and dynamic 3D representations for design filings. Attendees will gain practical insights into these evolving frameworks, understand key areas of ambiguity and enforcement trends, and learn strategies to strengthen and future-proof their digital product design portfolios.

Moderator: Christopher Santone, McAndrews, Held & Malloy, Ltd, Brooklyn, NY

Speakers:

Margaret Polson, Polson Intellectual Property Law, Washington, DC
 Henning Hartwig, Bardehle Pagenberg, Munich, Germany

Hosted by: Patent Agents Committee

CONCURRENT CLE TRACK 2 - 3:15 - 4:15 PM

Ethics CLE

Pro Bono: Practical Considerations (for Public Service)

This panel explores the ethical and practical considerations of providing pro bono patent and trademark representation, featuring leaders from the USPTO, Pro Bono Advisory Council, regional pro bono programs, and legal clinics.

Moderator: Georgann Grunebach, Grunebach Law, Beverly Hills, CA

Speakers:

Grant Corboy, USPTO OED, Reisterstown, MD
 Kirk Dammon, Lewis Rice LLC, St Louis, MO
 Stephen Maebius, Foley & Lardner LLP, Washington, DC

Hosted by: Pro Bono Committee

3:00 - 3:15 PM COFFEE BREAK

Pathways to Success: Exploring Careers in IP Law

Curious about where a career in intellectual property could take you? Join us for an interactive session designed to help you navigate the many paths in IP law. Attendees will hear candid career journeys during round-table discussions, participate in small-group breakout conversations to ask targeted questions, and gain valuable insights from live mock interviews with experienced practitioners.

Hosted by: Special Committee on Law Student Engagement

SKILLS WORKSHOP A

Using the Madrid System for International Trademark Protection

This small, hands-on workshop is designed to provide specific guidance on best practices for using the Madrid System for international trademark protection. The workshop will be led by a WIPO.

Instructors:

Quan-Ling Sim, Head of Madrid Operations Service, WIPO, Switzerland
 Nancy Mertz, Mertz Law, PLLC, New York, NY

SKILLS WORKSHOP B

PCT Skills Workshop: Practical Filing Strategies for US Practitioners

This interactive workshop explores common challenges and strategic decisions faced by PCT users. Through practical case studies and real-world examples, participants will learn how to avoid common pitfalls, evaluate filing pathways, and make informed decisions at key stages of the international patenting process.

Instructors:

Matthias Reischle-Park, Deputy Director, PCT Legal and User Relations, WIPO, Zurich, Switzerland
 Hanna Kang, Senior Legal Officer in the PCT Legal and User Relations Division, WIPO, Zurich, Switzerland

■ 4:00 - 6:00 PM

Committee Educational Sessions and Business Meetings

[View the full committee schedule](#) on the Annual Meeting website or in the Meeting App.



Friday, October 30, 2026

All times listed are Eastern Time

DAY 2

■ 6:45 - 7:45 PM

Networking Reception in the Exhibit Hall - Open to all attendees

■ 8:00 - 10:00 PM

Friday Dinner Event - Smooth Sailing: A Yacht Rock Gala

Cast off for an evening of elegance, entertainment, and unforgettable memories. This black-tie optional event blends the atmosphere of yachting with the laid-back charm of the Yacht Rock era. Enjoy lively networking while **Felix & Fingers Dueling Pianos** bring the soundtrack of the 70s and 80s to life through an interactive, high-energy performance. From smooth classics to crowd-favorite sing-alongs, prepare for a night of nautical-inspired sophistication and carefree fun on the high seas.

Attire: Black-Tie Optional | Yacht Club Chic Encouraged.



Saturday, October 31, 2026

All times listed are Eastern Time

DAY 3

■ 9:00 - 11:00 AM

YEAR IN REVIEW

The Annual Meeting concludes with our signature Year in Review plenary, highlighting the most significant patent law developments, trends, and decisions from the past year.

Moderator: Jocelyn D. Ram, The Broad Institute of MIT and Harvard, Cambridge, MA

Speakers: Madhavi Sunder, Georgetown University Law Center, Washington, DC
Nick Teleky, Kirkland & Ellis, Washington, DC

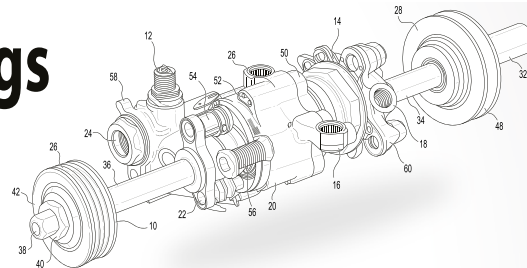
■ 11:00 - 12:00 Noon

ETHICS

This panel will explore the circumstances that may require or support an attorney's withdrawal from an attorney-client relationship in accordance with Rule 1.116, and the potential difficulties that may arise when the client does not want the lawyer to withdraw. The panel will also discuss the lawyer's confidentiality obligations, duty to cooperate with new counsel, conflicts (particularly in a joint client context, when withdrawal is required only for one of the clients), and related issues.

■ 12:00 Noon Board of Director's Meeting

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#aiplaAM26

FIRST TIME AT THE ANNUAL MEETING?

WELCOME!



WE'RE GLAD YOU'RE HERE.

#aiplaAM26

Whether you're new to AIPLA, attending your first Annual Meeting, or both, we're excited to welcome you. The Annual Meeting is designed to help you learn, build connections, and become part of the AIPLA community. Here are a few tips to help you make the most of your experience.

New Here? Start Here!

Make the most of your #aiplaAM26 experience from the moment you arrive! Join us for the First-Time Attendee & New Member Orientation on Thursday, October 29, at 7:45 a.m. in Redbud. Connect with fellow attendees, get insider tips for navigating the meeting, and have all your questions answered before the Annual Meeting officially begins.

Attend the First-Time Attendee & New Member Reception

Already had a chance to connect? Continue building your network at the First-Time Attendee & New Member Reception on Thursday, October 29, at 6:00 p.m.

This casual event is a great opportunity to meet fellow first-time attendees, connect with AIPLA leaders and members, and start building your network.

Pick Up Your First-Time Attendee Ribbon

When you pick up your badge, be sure to get a First-Time Attendee/New Member ribbon and wear it throughout the meeting.

It's an easy way to let other attendees know you're new. AIPLA leaders, mentors, and

longtime members actively look for these ribbons and make an effort to introduce themselves, answer questions, and help you feel welcome.

Say Hello!

One of the best parts of the Annual Meeting is the people you'll meet.

Don't hesitate to introduce yourself, strike up a conversation before a session, or join others at networking events. You'll find AIPLA members are welcoming, approachable, and eager to help you make connections.

Attend the Networking Receptions

From the First-Time Attendee/New Member Reception to evening networking events, receptions offer a relaxed environment to meet colleagues from across the IP profession.

Whether you're reconnecting with familiar faces or meeting someone for the first time, these informal conversations often become some of the most valuable moments of the meeting.

Download the Mobile App

The AIPLA Annual Meeting mobile app helps you:

- View the meeting schedule
- Build your personal agenda
- Connect with fellow attendees
- Receive important updates throughout the meeting

Be sure to download the app before you arrive so you're ready to go on day one.

Request a Mentor

First-time attendees can request a mentor during registration to help them navigate the meeting, make

connections, and get the most out of the experience.

Explore the Exhibit Hall

Take time to visit the Exhibit Hall and meet AIPLA's exhibitors.

You'll discover innovative products, services, and technologies designed to support IP professionals—and have the opportunity to connect directly with industry experts.

Attend Sessions That Interest You

There are plenty of educational opportunities throughout the meeting, so don't feel like you need to attend everything.

Choose sessions that align with your practice, interests, or areas you'd like to learn more about—and don't be afraid to explore something new.

Ask Questions

Have a question about the meeting? Need help finding a session? Looking for recommendations?

AIPLA staff, committee leaders, and fellow members are happy to help. Don't hesitate to ask—we're here to make your first Annual Meeting a great experience.

We Can't Wait to Meet You!

We hope your first AIPLA Annual Meeting is both rewarding and enjoyable. We encourage you to take advantage of every opportunity to learn, connect, and get involved—you'll be glad you did

Helpful Hints:

Dress comfortably but professionally. Business attire is appropriate for most sessions and events, though business casual is common during daytime programming.



Bring business cards (or be ready to exchange LinkedIn information). Networking is one of the biggest benefits of attending.



Don't be afraid to attend open committee meetings and events. Even if you're just listening, it's a great way to learn about AIPLA and meet members with similar interests.



Give yourself a few extra minutes between sessions. Those hallway conversations often lead to some of the best networking opportunities.

Welcome to the AIPLA community!



Westin Washington, DC Downtown

999 9th Street, NW
Washington, DC, USA

Hotel & Transportation

Group Room Rate:

\$332 plus applicable taxes.

HOTEL CUTOFF:

Monday, October 5, 2026

Check-in: 4:00PM

Check-out: 11:00AM



Scan the
QR code
to book
your room

RESERVATION LINK:

Parking Information

Valet parking is available at \$42 for up to 2 hours, \$51 for 2-6 hours, and \$72 for 6-24 hours or overnight. Oversized vehicles: \$80. Self-parking is available in the on-site garage operated by Colonial Parking, with rates from \$11-\$48 depending on duration. Early Bird (Mon-Fri, in by 9am/out by 6pm): \$15. Evening Rate (after 5pm, out by 3am): \$16. In/out privileges available at check-in. EV charging available on P1. Garage entrance on I Street.

Marriott Bonvoy™ Members get easier thumb-tap access to booking, upcoming stays, mobile check-in and check-out, mobile requests, and more!

Transportation

The Westin Washington is just a 15-minute drive from Reagan National Airport and a 45-minute drive from both Dulles and Baltimore Washington International Airports.

On-Property:

Onsite Car Rental Company: Hertz

Subway Stations Nearby:

Gallery Place- Chinatown (Green, Yellow & Red Lines)
Metro Centre (Blue, Orange & Silver Lines)

Nearby Train Station: Union Station

ZBestWorldwide Shuttle and Limo Service

ZBestWorldWide is dedicated to providing the highest-quality and most professional transportation services. We have been delivering unsurpassed service for over 25 years. These decades of experience in the transportation industry have helped us to develop the knowledge and level of service that our clients expect and deserve. RIDE WITH US! **zbestlimo.com** or call **1-800-406-0301**

Special Registration Options and Discounts

AIPLA Members... Invite a Colleague to Join and Register! Recruit More... Save More!

Take a look at the benefits of recruiting a new member:

- Reduction of your 2026 Annual Meeting registration fee in increments of \$50 for each Regular (in practice more than five years), or International Affiliate member you recruit and \$25 for each Junior member you recruit. There is no limit to the discount you can earn.
- An invitation to attend the New Member/First-Time Attendee Reception, Thursday, October 29, 6:00 - 7:00 PM.

To recruit new members, tell them about the special benefits of joining now:

- They can register for the Annual Meeting at the member rate instead of the non-member rate—a savings of hundreds!
- Each new member who registers for the Annual Meeting will receive a special invitation emailed to them to attend the New Member/First-Time Attendee Reception.
- Access the Special Membership Application from the Annual Meeting homepage

After the newly recruited member has completed the membership application form(s):

- Sign on the Recruiter line.
- Important: Include the Membership Application form(s) with your 2026 Annual Meeting Registration Form to ensure proper credit.
- Email both to membership@aipla.org, or mail both to AIPLA Headquarters, 2000 Duke Street, Suite 300, Alexandria, VA 22314
- If you are a first-time AIPLA meeting attendee, be sure to indicate it on the registration form.

Corporate In-House Counsel — Attending Your First AIPLA Meeting? Please, be Our Guest...

AIPLA has a special offer to encourage in-house corporate counsel to attend an AIPLA major meeting to see first-hand the outstanding CLE programs we provide.

For individuals who have never attended an AIPLA stated meeting who are also corporate in-house counsel, AIPLA will waive the registration fee. Tickets to the events are not included in this registration. You will need to pay for those events separately. This waiver of fees is available for one stated meeting only.

To take advantage of this one-time offer, simply complete the registration form and email it to us at membership@aipla.org. Once AIPLA has verified that this is your first major meeting and that you meet the in-house corporate counsel criteria, you will receive a registration confirmation. Our hope is that you enjoy your experience at your first AIPLA meeting and that you will join us again for future programs and become more actively involved with the work of the Association, especially through involvement with the Committees.

If you qualify for this special offer, please select the box listed as “first-time corporate in-house counsel” on the registration form.

Group Discounts

AIPLA is pleased to announce the introduction of a new, special registration option for law firms and corporations. In an effort to create opportunities for multiple IP practitioners from a single organization to attend the meeting, AIPLA is offering one complimentary registration for the 2026 Annual Meeting for every three [3], fully-paid registrations.

Register 3-Get 1 FREE

Your complimentary registration may be used for a colleague, client, or other as you determine is most valuable.

A paper registration must be downloaded from the website and submitted for the complimentary registration by email to membership@aipla.org. Please note in the email the names of the three paid registrants for confirmation.

Only fully paid registrations can be applied toward the multi-registration offer. The following exclusions apply:

- This offer is not valid for meeting exhibitors.
- Guest registrations do not apply toward the total number of paid registrations.
- First-time corporate attendees and Corporate Subscription registrations do not apply toward the total number of paid registrations.

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Registration and Cancellation Information

1. Registration:

Register by **October 21, 2026** to be included on the participation list. On-site registrations will be accepted; however, please be prepared to pay by check, cash or credit card. We DO NOT invoice for any fees. Attendees must register for the meeting if they wish to register for or attend social events. Badges are required at all meetings and social events.

Registration for the AIPLA Annual Meeting includes: access to the plenaries, tracks, and skills workshops (if you registered in advance for one), the meeting app and all materials and recordings after the conference, networking events that are not ticketed, and CLE (requires appropriate paperwork is completed).

2. Submitting Your Registration:

ONLINE: You should receive an email confirmation shortly after you complete the process. Please keep this confirmation for your records. www.aipla.org

EMAIL: Completed registration forms, including payment information, can be sent to membership@aipla.org.

MAIL: Mail registrations to:

AIPLA

2000 Duke Street, Suite 300
Alexandria, VA 22314

International Registrations:

If you submit a registration via fax with credit card payment, do not send a “confirmation copy” via mail as it may be processed twice, and you may be billed twice. If you are paying by check, please mail your registration. You may fax 703-415-0786 a copy of your check and registration to account for possible foreign mail delay. **Payment for meeting registration must be in US currency.**

3. Spouses or Accompanying Guests Must Register.

Guests over 18 pay a guest fee of \$150. There are many opportunities for your spouse or guest to join you throughout the meeting, as well as network with and get to know the other spouses and guests attending the meeting. The Guest fees include a guest badge and access to all unticketed events, including: the continental breakfasts, luncheon receptions and morning and afternoon breaks. *This fee is intended for spouses and guests attending the Annual Meeting who are not eligible for AIPLA membership or who would not otherwise attend the meeting for CLE purposes. This guest fee is not available in lieu of paying the registration fee for vendors requesting more than the allotted number of exhibitor badges.*

4. Purchasing Event Tickets On-Site:

Events may sell out. Tickets on-site are sold on an “as available” basis. Tickets will be collected at all food functions and the spouse/guest tours.

If you do not arrive at the event within the first 30 minutes of the start time of the event, you are not guaranteed a seat.

5. Returned Check and Credit Card Fees:

Registrations received that result in a returned check or contain incomplete credit card information, including omitted signature, omitted expiration date, wrong number sequences, etc., will be charged a \$35 fee for each instance.

6. Cancellation:

Cancel by **September 30, 2026** and receive a refund less a \$50 processing fee. Cancel between **October 1 and October 15** and receive a refund less a \$250 processing fee. No refunds issued after close of business **October 15, 2026**. Cancellations must be made in writing. Please mail, email, or fax — 703-415-0786 — your cancellation in writing to AIPLA, 2000 Duke Street, Suite 300, Alexandria, VA 22314. Any refunds will be processed after the meeting.

CAUTION: If you duplicate your registration with AIPLA, it is your responsibility to notify AIPLA in writing after the meeting and request a refund. No refunds will be given at the meeting site.

7. Registration Transfer:

Registrants may transfer their registration based on the following:

- Members may transfer their registration to other members.
- Non-members may transfer their registration to other non-members.
- A transfer from a member to a non-member will incur an additional fee equal to the difference in registration rates.

8. Photographs and Video:

There will be photographs and video taken throughout AIPLA's 2026 Annual Meeting that will be used in AIPLA print and electronic publications, including AIPLA's website.

9. Attendee List: As part of registering for the meeting, we provide sponsors and exhibitors a list of attendees. If you do not want your name or information listed, it is incumbent on you to change your sharing settings in the Meeting app or contact AIPLA to let us know. We do not rent or sell our attendee list to third parties. It is only provided to our exhibitors and sponsors.

AIPLA 2026 Annual Meeting Registration

Thursday, October 29 to Saturday, October 31, 2026 • Westin Washington, DC • 999 9th Street, NW • Washington, DC

Ways to Register:



Register Online:
Go to www.aipla.org
Credit Card Payment Only



Fax: 703-415-0786
(Faxed registrations MUST be accompanied by credit card information.)



Mail or eMail:
AIPLA
2000 Duke Street, Suite 300, Alexandria, VA 22314
meetings@aipla.org

First name: _____ Last name: _____
Name for Badge: _____
Firm/Company: _____
Mailing Address: _____ City/State/Zip Code _____
Telephone: _____ E-mail: _____
(Spouse/Guest) Name: _____

I. AIPLA 2026 Annual Meeting Registration Rates			
**See AIPLA's Cancellation Policy for Important Dates and Information	Pre-registration deadline until 8/31/26	Early registration deadline until 9/30/26	Standard/Onsite after 9/30/26
AIPLA Member - Full Meeting	\$1145	\$1295	\$1545
AIPLA Member - Day Rate fee per day. Please indicate preferred day. ☐ Thursday ☐ Friday ☐ Saturday	\$875 (one day only)	\$975 (one day only)	\$1075 (one day only)
Government Employee/AIPLA Academic Member	\$145	\$145	\$195
AIPLA Junior/ IP Paralegal/Technical Advisor Affiliate Member	\$685	\$785	\$885
AIPLA Student Member	\$55	\$55	\$55
AIPLA Solo Practitioner Member/Regular Corporate Member	\$995	\$1195	\$1395
First-Time Corporate In-House Counsel (Corporate in-house practitioners only)	\$0	\$0	\$0
Non-Member* - Full Meeting	\$1795	\$1895	\$2050
Non-Member - Day Rate fee per day. Please indicate preferred day. ☐ Thursday ☐ Friday ☐ Saturday	\$1350 (one day only)	\$1450 (one day only)	\$1550 (one day only)
Spouse/Guest Fee (For guests over 18)	\$150 x # _____	\$150 x # _____	\$150 x # _____
Registration Subtotal			\$ _____

II. AIPLA 2026 Annual Meeting Social and Networking Events			
Thursday, October 29, 2026			
Corporate Practice Breakfast (Corporate In-House Practitioners Only)	\$0 x	# _____	
Luncheon	\$84 x	# _____	
Mentor/Speed Networking Reception (for mentors and mentees)	\$0 x	# _____	
New Member/First-Time Attendee Reception (for all new AIPLA members and First-time Meeting Attendees)	\$0 x	# _____	
Diversity in IP Law Reception	\$0 x	# _____	
Opening Night Reception	\$99 x	# _____	
Friday, October 30, 2026			
Women in IP Law Breakfast	\$0 x	# _____	
Luncheon	\$85 x	# _____	
Dinner and Entertainment (A Table Reservation Includes 10 tickets)	\$175 x	# _____	
	\$2500 x	# _____	
Social and Networking Events Subtotal			\$ _____
Total			\$ _____

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☐ Yes, I would like to be contacted about participating as a mentor or mentee (circle one) during 2026 Annual Meeting. Email me at _____

*To get the member rate, please submit a membership application and payment with this registration. To obtain a membership application, please visit our website at www.aipla.org.

☐ Is this the first time attending an AIPLA stated meeting?

IMPORTANT! Please indicate food restrictions/special needs requests

Method of payment

- ☐ check enclosed (make checks payable to AIPLA)
☐ credit card (please circle one - AMEX, MC, or VISA)

card number _____ exp. date _____
name on card _____
signature _____

*Committee meetings are open to all attendees unless otherwise noted.

**Program subject to change



Ticket Required

2026 Annual Meeting - Washington, DC

2026 Annual Meeting Sponsors

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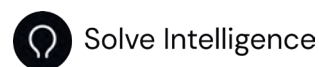
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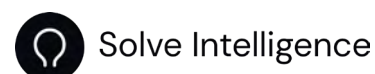
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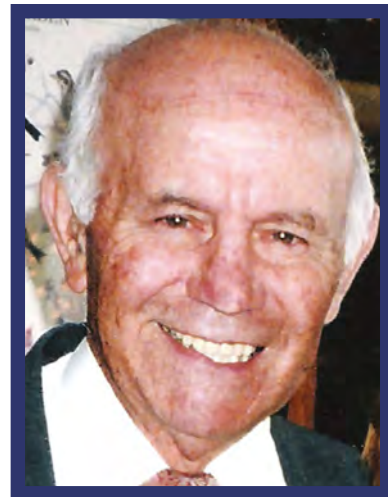
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The 2026 Maurice Klitzman Award

Junior Corporate Attorneys or Corporate Patent Agents—

Apply for a chance to Attend the Meeting for Free!



AIPLA is accepting applications for the 2026 Maurice Klitzman Award created to help young corporate patent attorneys continue their learning.

The Maurice Klitzman Award provides a junior corporate attorney or corporate patent agent the opportunity to attend the AIPLA 2026 Annual Meeting in Washington, DC—and to be connected with an experienced mentor during the meeting. The deadline for entries is **August 31, 2026**.

The award was established as a lasting and appropriate memorial to Mr. Klitzman for his active service to AIPLA. His heart and soul were dedicated to training young patent attorneys and helping them to develop a broad approach to IP Law with a conviction to moral principles and ethics. His career was a unique blend of corporate IP law, heartfelt support for the inventor, and shaping the mindset of future IP leaders.

The award will cover the recipient's reasonable travel and accommodation expenses during the 2026 Annual Meeting namely, coach air or train fare, hotel accommodation at the conference hotel, complimentary registration and function tickets, and incidental ground transportation. In addition, the recipient of the award will be assigned a mentor to provide guidance during the meeting and facilitate the opportunity to meet members of the AIPLA leadership.

Deadline to Apply: August 31, 2026

Award includes:

- Complimentary Registration for the AIPLA 2026 Annual Meeting
- Coach airfare or train fare
- Hotel accommodations at the conference hotel
- Tickets to all functions and incidental ground transportation

Apply online at: www.aipla.org/resources/programs-awards/maurice-klitzman-award

Become a Supporter

**Position your organization as a leader
Elevate your company's profile at the
premier intellectual property law event**

We work closely with sponsors and exhibitors to create the perfect business development solution catered exclusively to the needs of your organization. **To learn more about becoming an AIPLA 2026 Annual Meeting Sponsor or Exhibitor, please contact:**

Lisa Beller
lbeller@aipla.org

AIPLA 2026 Annual Meeting *October 29-October 31, 2026*

Upcoming AIPLA Meetings!



**2027 Global IP and
Trade Summit**
January 27 to 29, 2027
Marriott Sanibel
Harbour Resort
Ft. Myers, FL



2027 Spring Meeting
May 6 to 8, 2027
Hyatt Regency
Downtown Denver
Denver, CO