



## 2025 SUMMER MEETING

June 23-25, 2025  
Four Seasons  
Atlanta, GA

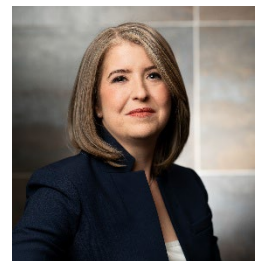


### Meet the Speakers

**Kathi Vidal** is one of the leading patent and intellectual property (IP) litigators and Federal Circuit advocates in the U.S. TechCrunch recognized her as one of the “remarkable women who’ve contributed to the AI revolution,” and *Forbes* recognized her as one of the top 50 women in innovation. Former Under Secretary of Commerce for IP and Director of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO), Kathi is one of the most influential people in AI and IP in the world and is a ChIPs Hall of Fame recipient. Kathi recently returned to Winston & Strawn’s Washington, D.C. and Silicon Valley offices and is a member of the firm’s Executive Committee.



**Samantha Aguayo** is Deputy Executive Director and Chief Policy Counsel of Intellectual Property Owners Association. In this role, she serves as the association’s lead U.S. government relations attorney, working directly with IPO Board of Directors to adopt strategic public policy positions and representing the association in Congress, the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, and other federal agencies. Ms. Aguayo oversees the organization’s amicus program as well as its member committee program. She also directs IPO’s external communications and serves as editor-in-chief of the popular *IPO Daily News™* and *IPOwners Quarterly™* publications and -host of the *IP Chat Channel™* webinar series. Ms. Aguayo joined IPO in 2000 and has held numerous positions within the association, including Director of Government Relations and Chief Operating Executive. She earned her BA from Kenyon College and her JD from George Washington University Law School.



**Vincent Garlock** is the Executive Director of the American Intellectual Property Law Association (AIPLA), a national bar association dedicated to improving the domestic and international IP laws and providing the highest quality of services and programs to its members. Vince is involved in all aspects of AIPLA management, and is particularly involved in the shaping, development and communication of policy initiatives. Prior to coming to AIPLA, he was of Counsel to the Washington law firm of Verner, Liipfert, Bernhard, McPherson and Hand. Prior to that, Vince was counsel for several years to the House Judiciary Committee where he worked on the Subcommittee on Courts, the Internet and Intellectual Property. Prior to coming to Washington, Vince was an Ohio Assistant Attorney General. He also practiced law at a litigation firm in Ohio, and began his legal career as a criminal prosecutor for the City of Columbus. He holds an LLM in Intellectual Property Law from George Washington University, a J.D. from the University of Toledo, and a Bachelor of Arts from the Ohio State University.



**Scott Hayden** is the Vice President of the intellectual Property Group for Amazon.com since 2006. He is responsible for all patent, trademark, copyright, trade secret and domain issues. Scott has managed the growth of the IP team from 4 people to over 80 (and still looking to hire a couple more) and is responsible for a portfolio of 18,000+ patent families, 50,000+ trademark assets, and 85,000+ domains.



**Ben Elacqua** is sought-after lead counsel for global intellectual property disputes. He handles all phases of complex litigation and regulatory investigations, including multijurisdictional parallel proceedings in U.S. District Courts and at the U.S. International Trade Commission. Ben takes a holistic approach to litigation. He gains a thorough understanding of the client's business, products, and technology and then leverages that knowledge to explain complex problems simply and deliver results in and out of the courtroom. Ben is considered a pioneer in the technically and legally challenging area of SEP/FRAND licensing and litigation. Over the last decade he was intricately involved in developing and executing strategies and trying cases in the largest worldwide litigations regarding standard essential patents. He is a go-to advisor on standards essential patents, and fair, reasonable, and nondiscriminatory licensing relating to 5G, Wi-Fi, HEVC, and new emerging standards technologies. In addition to serving as lead litigation counsel, Ben advises a broad range of companies, particularly companies newly entering the connected products space, on SEP/FRAND diligence and licensing, as well as ways to handle royalty strategies relating to SEPs, and to help them avoid litigation entirely or better position themselves for litigation success.



**Sarah Guichard** is a seasoned technology industry leader with a unique blend of legal, technical, and business expertise in navigating complex challenges and driving strategic initiatives. She currently serves as Associate General Counsel at Via Licensing, providing legal support across a variety of standard essential patent pools covering audio and video codec, wireless charging, and electric vehicle charging. Her work includes advising on reconciliation, pool formation, and litigation strategy. Prior to Via Licensing, Sarah held key positions at Google, including Senior Counsel, where she managed patent licensing, acquisitions, and divestments. She also served as Senior Counsel at GE Ventures and held various leadership roles at RPX, including VP of Acquisitions, focusing on patent risk management and portfolio management. Earlier in her career, Sarah spent several years at BlackBerry during the smartphone patent wars in various patent and standards leadership positions, ultimately leading a team of over 150 employees. She began her legal career as a Litigation Associate at Howrey LLP and a Patent Agent at Tope-McKay and Associates and Ladas & Parry. Sarah holds a Juris Doctor from Loyola Law School, where she graduated Cum Laude and Order of the Coif, an MS in Electrical Engineering from UCLA, and a BS in Electrical Engineering from Cal Poly San Luis Obispo. She is a member of the California State Bar and a US Patent Attorney.



**Susanne Hollinger, Ph.D.**, is Chief IP Counsel for Newell Brands, a global leader in consumer products with a portfolio of over 50 trusted brands. In this role, she leads the company's worldwide IP strategy, overseeing the protection and enforcement of patents, trademarks, copyrights, and trade secrets. Susanne brings deep expertise across both corporate and academic IP landscapes. Prior to joining Newell, she served as Global Head of Patents at The Coca-Cola Company and as Chief IP Officer at Emory University. A registered patent attorney, she began her legal career at King & Spalding, where she focused on advising startups and investors in the biopharmaceutical industry. Based in Atlanta, Susanne shares her home with her husband and an ever-rotating cast of pets. She recently launched three children into college and is enjoying the next chapter of family life.



**Idris McKelvey** leads the Estée Lauder Companies' Patent Group, joining in 2010, and leading the global patent team since 2018 as Vice President and Lead Patent Counsel. He focuses on advancing the team's patent strategy through people-centered technology integration. Previously, he managed global patent portfolios across various business units at Procter & Gamble. Idris holds a J.D. and a B.S. in chemistry from Howard University. He also chairs the board of the Institute for Intellectual Property and Social Justice, and he is a proud supporter of Girls Inc. of Long Island. Idris resides in Huntington, NY, with his wife and two daughters.



**Brett Hansen** is the Director of Intellectual Property Counsel for Hypertherm, Inc., a US manufacturer of plasma, waterjet, and laser cutting technologies. Brett joined Hypertherm in 2006 and is responsible for the development and enforcement of the company's global patent and trademark portfolio, including overseeing global IP litigations as well as anti-counterfeiting investigations and raids. Brett is part of the Hypertherm's Engineering Steering Team and leads innovation development projects for the organization. Prior to joining Hypertherm Brett was a shareholder of the Salt Lake based law firm of Workman Nydegger as part of its IP litigation group. Brett is a graduate of Brigham Young University 2

Classified as Hypertherm Inc. - Business Use - This document contains information that is proprietary or confidential to Hypertherm, Inc. with B.S. in Mechanical Engineering and received his law degree from the University of New Hampshire School of Law.



**George Jonas** is Vice President and Chief IP Counsel for Resideo Technologies, an IoT company that manufactures, sells, and distributes comfort, water, energy management, and safety and security solutions in the United States, Europe, and internationally. George leads a team that is responsible for international patent and trademark portfolio development and monetization. IP transactional issues, including joint development, licensing and M&A activities. Previously, George was Managing Counsel of Intellectual Property for the Downstream segment of BP PLC, a multinational integrated oil company. In his role, he managed a team of IP and commercial attorneys based in the US and the UK to protect the intellectual property assets for BP's Automotive Fuels, Lubricants, Petrochemicals, Refining, and Aviation Fuels businesses, which account for over \$7B in profit and \$200B in revenue for the company. Prior to joining BP, George was the Head IP Counsel at SunPower Corporation (a subsidiary of Total, S.A.) in San Jose, CA a manufacturer and installer of photovoltaic solar panels, and before SunPower, he was the division counsel for 3M Innovative Properties Company.

**Jeff Kuester** is the Intellectual Property Practice Group Leader at Taylor Duma where he handles all types of intellectual property issues, including litigation, licensing, and prosecution. He is ranked as one of the top 1,000 patent attorneys in the world and currently serves as a Special Assistant Attorney General for the State of Georgia for intellectual property matters. A former adjunct professor of intellectual property law at Georgia State University College of Law, he has been described by peers as having "an encyclopedic knowledge of patent law," being an "exceptionally gifted practitioner," and offering "the highest-quality service in prosecution." As a Board of Governors member of the State Bar of Georgia, Mr. Kuester has served as a member of the Next Generation Courts Commission, Chair of the Intellectual Property and Technology Law Sections, and Chair of the Lawyer Assistance Program. He also serves as the founding Vice-Chair of the Wellness Committee of the Intellectual Property Owners Association and as a member of the Board of Trustees for the



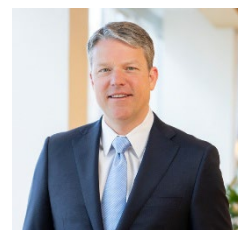


Woodruff Arts Center. Jeff is a married father of five children and enjoys traveling and playing golf in his limited spare time.

**Trenton Ward** serves as the Co-Chair of Greenberg's Patent Post-Grant Group. Trenton previously served for five years at the Patent Trial and Appeal Board (PTAB) as a Lead Administrative Patent Judge, among other roles, where he adjudicated more than 250 America Invents Act (AIA) trial proceedings.



**Ben Pleune** is a partner in Alston & Bird's Intellectual Property Litigation Group, and the managing partner of Alston & Bird's Charlotte office. Ben has extensive experience litigating patents in U.S. district courts, the Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit, and the International Trade Commission. Ben has appeared in over 100 post-grant review proceedings before the Patent Trial and Appeal Board and has co-authored a book on PTAB practice that is in its third edition. Ben also has significant experience in international matters, partnering with patent counsel in Germany, the Netherlands, the UK, China, and Japan in patent infringement and validity proceedings.



**Umar Bakhsh** counsels clients on various aspects of IP procurement and enforcement, as well as licensing, asset purchases and divestments, and other transactional matters. Umar is experienced in patent and trademark prosecution, privacy and cybersecurity matters, and IP enforcement matters. Umar's clients are leaders in the AI and machine learning, e-commerce, social media, fintech, gaming, consumer products and robotics spaces. In addition, Umar has experience in product counseling and data privacy issues, particularly dealing with third party data transfers and licenses. Umar serves as the Hiring Partner for the Eversheds Sutherland summer associate program.



**Micheal Binns** is Head of Patents & Trade Secrets and a Director and Associate General Counsel on the Patent, Licensing and Open-Source team at Meta, formerly Facebook. As a registered patent attorney, Mike's helped protect global copyrights and trademarks in addition to patent rights for a wide range of industries. At present, he advises on global IP portfolio strategy and risk mitigation related to the future of AI, social networking, AR/VR/MR, and the metaverse. Micheal has and continues to protect the knowledge, systems, and inventions that are business-critical drivers of revenue. Micheal chairs Meta's Black@Legal affinity group, which focuses on ensuring an equitable experience for diverse employees in the legal department. Within the legal profession, he is a founder and board member of ADAPT.legal, a DEI collective; a former board member on the National Council on Patent Practicum and founder of the Patent



Pipeline Program; and the vice president and a trustee on the Foundation for Advancement of Diversity in IP Law.

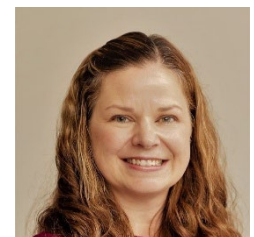
**Aaron Reinhardt** is Patent Counsel for the Kitchen segment at Newell Brands, which includes well-known brands such as Rubbermaid, Calphalon, FoodSaver, Mr. Coffee, Oster, and Crock-Pot. In this role, he is responsible for managing invention review processes, including advising on AI-assisted inventions, overseeing patent filings and patent prosecution, drafting and negotiating IP-related agreements, and mitigating patent and other IP-related risks. He has over a decade of patent law experience, including roles in both private practice and corporate counsel positions. Prior to joining Newell, Aaron served as Assistant General Counsel for Intellectual Property at Reliance Worldwide Corporation, where he managed a global patent and trademark portfolio and provided strategic legal counsel across a broad spectrum of IP issues. He also previously practiced at Oliff and Womble Bond Dickinson, focusing on patent prosecution. Aaron holds both Bachelor's and Master's degrees in Civil Engineering from the University of New Mexico and earned his J.D. from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.



**Jason Chang** serves as the Assistant Vice President - Senior Legal Counsel for Intellectual Property (IP) at AT&T. In this role, Jason spearheads AT&T's patent prosecution team, overseeing the strategic management of AT&T's extensive portfolio, which encompasses approximately 10,000 patents. His expertise extends to negotiating IP contract provisions with a diverse range of vendors and suppliers, alongside managing pre-litigation defensive patent matters. Before AT&T, Jason was a Senior Associate at Sutherland Asbill (now Eversheds Sutherland) in Atlanta, Georgia. There, he developed a comprehensive practice dedicated to assisting clients with the acquisition, enforcement, and defense of patents and other IP rights. Jason's holds a law degree from Harvard Law School, and a B.S. in Electrical Engineering from the Georgia Institute of Technology.



**Dr. Reagan Charney** is the Head of Intellectual Property at Arxada, a leading chemical company specializing in microbial control solutions. With global oversight of all aspects of IP—including trademarks, patents, trade secrets, and enforcement—she plays a crucial role in safeguarding innovation. In addition to her leadership at Arxada, Dr. Charney is a dedicated educator, teaching courses on Licensing IP, Design and Trade Secrets, and 2 Trademarks at Georgia State Law School in Atlanta. She holds a Ph.D. in Organic Chemistry from Georgia Tech, a B.S. from Texas A&M, and a law degree from Georgia State. Prior to her current role, she served as in-house counsel at Newell Brands, managing the patents and trade secrets for iconic writing brands



like Sharpie. Outside of work, Dr. Charney enjoys playing tennis, reading, and sharing a glass of wine with her husband while keeping up with their three children.

**Professor David Hricik** received his undergraduate degree *magna cum laude* and *Phi Beta Kappa* from the University of Arizona, and his law degree with Honors from Northwestern University School of Law. He practiced with Baker Botts and litigation boutiques from 1988 to 2002, litigating cases primarily involving patent infringement, legal malpractice, and general complex commercial matters. In 2002, he joined Mercer University School of Law, where he has taught ethics, torts, remedies, patent law and litigation, civil procedure, and other courses. In 2012-13, he served as law clerk to then-Chief Judge Randall R. Rader at the United States Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit. He then rejoined Mercer and became Of Counsel with Taylor English, where represented clients in patent, Lanham Act, legal malpractice, and complex litigation from 2013 to 2019. He was elected as a member of the American Law Institute in 2016, as a Fellow of the American Intellectual Property Law Association, and as a Fellow of the American Bar Association, and has served in leadership roles on ethics committees of the AIPLA and ABA. He has authored or co-authored books on ethical issues in patent litigation, ethical issues in patent prosecution, civil procedure, torts, remedies, and evidence and he has provided hundreds of presentations on ethics and intellectual property law. His articles and testimony have been adopted by both state and federal courts. He is now a solo practitioner, representing practitioners and others before the Office of Enrollment and Discipline and in other disciplinary matters, consulting with firms about ethical issues, and serving as an expert witness. In 2021, he became a registered mediator.



**Susanne Wilson** leads the Intellectual Property department at Battelle Memorial Institute. Her team manages Battelle's global trademark and patent portfolios and IP transactions, assists with spin-offs and joint-ventures, advises with respect to privacy issues and IP issues around AI and GenAI, and generally looks to mitigate IP risk across the company. Before joining Battelle, Susanne was Global IP Counsel at SharkNinja, managing a team of attorneys in developing and deploying patent strategy across Shark product lines. In addition, Susanne collaborated with outside counsel and the business to build high-value patent portfolios. Susanne previously worked as Patent Counsel at Schneider Electric. She has experience overseeing IP litigations, previously overseeing select district court and ITC actions, and post-grant proceedings before the Patent Trial and Appeal Board (PTAB). Prior to moving in-house, Susanne was a senior electrical/software associate at JonesRobb, focusing on patent prosecution, IP transactions, and client counseling. She also spent several years as an associate at Volpe and Koenig. Her practice at Volpe involved patent litigation and a significant amount of work devising strategies for Non-Practicing Entities (NPEs). Susanne has a Bachelor of Science in architecture from The Ohio State



University, a Master of Science in Engineering in mechanical engineering from Kettering University, and JD from Rutgers School of Law. She is a board member for Columbus Landmarks and is passionate about advancing women in tech and law.

**Paul Fair** is Vice President, Chief IP Counsel and Associate General Counsel at Church & Dwight Co., known to many as the ARM & HAMMER company that has been in existence since 1846. Church & Dwight is a publicly traded consumer products company in the S&P 500 selling a variety of household and personal care products under such recognized brands as ARM & HAMMER, OXICLEAN, TROJAN, FIRST RESPONSE, HERO, THERABREATH, NAIR, BATISTE, ORAJEL, CLUMP & SEAL, VITAFUSION, WATERPIK, and ZICAM just to name a few. As Chief IP Counsel at Church & Dwight, Paul is responsible for all IP related matters and policies, including patents, trademarks and brand protection. Prior to joining Church & Dwight, Paul was Division Patent Counsel at FMC Corporation and worked in private practice at Sughrue and Kenyon & Kenyon where his practice focused on high profile patent disputes in the chemical and life science fields.



**Peter Mattei** is Associate General Counsel – Innovation & Technology for Tenneco, a leading manufacturer of automotive products for original equipment and aftermarket customers. He leads a team of professionals responsible for managing Tenneco's patent portfolio and supporting innovation activities around the globe. Prior to joining Tenneco in 2013, Peter was IP Counsel for Toyota North America. He currently serves on the IPO Education Foundation Board of Directors, as secretary of IPO's Corporate IP management & Operations Committee, and as a council member of the IP Law Section of the Michigan Bar. He has a J.D. from Wake Forest University and a Bachelor of Engineering from Western Michigan University.



John Geis is a legal and strategy consultant at Geis Law PLLC, providing services on a fractional/contract/secondment basis. As Assistant General Counsel-IP at American Axle & Manufacturing for 10 years, John was the *de facto* Chief IP Counsel to a \$6B Tier 1 automotive supplier. He had global responsibility for patents, trademarks, trade secrets, software licenses, IP strategy, and IP litigation. Prior to AAM, he was a patent attorney at Foley & Lardner with clients in the consumer goods, medical devices, and software spaces. Before that, he was an engineer at Ford Motor Company working on hardware and controls for engine and aftertreatment. John holds a J.D., an M.S. in mechanical engineering, and a B.S. in mechanical engineering from the University of Michigan. John lives in Michigan with his wife and three children and is Scoutmaster of Scouting America Troop 903.

