



University of Akron School of Law
Center for Intellectual Property Law & Technology

27th Annual Symposium on Intellectual Property Law and Policy

**MONDAY, MARCH 24, 2025
8:00AM-5:30PM**

Agenda

8:00 – 8:45 a.m. Registration and Hot Breakfast

8:50 – 9:00 a.m. Welcome and Opening Remarks

Mark Schultz – Goodyear Tire & Rubber Company Endowed Chair in Intellectual Property Law & Director of the Center for Intellectual Property Law and Technology, The University of Akron School of Law

9:00 – 10:00 a.m. Intellectual Property Law and Policy in the New Administration

Douglas Park, Research Professor, the University of Akron School of Law (Moderator)
Jaci McDole, Senior Director, Copyright and Creativity, US Chamber of Commerce
Jamie Simpson, Chief Policy Officer and Counsel, Council for Innovation Promotion
Emily Michiko Morris, Professor, the University of Akron School of Law

This panel will discuss potential administrative and legislative changes in the next administration, including potential reforms to patentable subject matter, injunctions in IP cases, measures to combat online infringement, and other topics.

10:00 – 11:15 a.m. Design Protection Power Play: Building an IP Portfolio That Lasts

Michael Doane, Professor, the University of Akron School of Law (Moderator)
Dunstan H. Barnes, Ph.D., Partner, McAndrews Held & Malloy Ltd.
Darrell G. Mottley, Assistant Clinical Professor, Suffolk University
John Skeriotis, Partner, Emerson Thomson Bennett

How do we create comprehensive, long-lasting protection for product designs by strategically combining design patents, trade dress, copyright, and utility patents? This session explores how different IP rights complement each other, when to deploy each type of protection, and how IP owners can build a robust portfolio that maintains market advantage throughout a product's commercial lifecycle.

11:15 – 11:30 a.m. Break**11:30 - 12:15 p.m. Keynote: Sarita Venkat, Vice President and Deputy General Counsel of Global Litigation and Competition, Cisco****12:15 – 1:15 p.m. Networking Lunch****1:15 – 2:30 p.m. Trade Secret Game-Changers: New Rules from Landmark Decisions**

Mark Schultz, Professor, The University of Akron School of Law (Moderator)
Victoria Cundiff, Partner (ret.), Paul Hastings
Gary Corroto, Partner, Plakas Mannos
Rena Andoh, Partner, Benesch Friedlander Coplan & Aronoff

A perfect storm of recent blockbuster decisions has reshaped the trade secret landscape, providing new guidance on everything from damages calculations to extraterritorial reach. This expert panel will unpack how these watershed cases are changing the way we think about trade secret protection and enforcement. Moving beyond just case summaries, our panelists will explore the practical implications for trade secret strategy, evidence gathering, jury presentations, and remedies calculations in light of these decisions. The discussion will weave in guidance from the latest Sedona Conference commentary while providing practical insights for both plaintiffs and defendants navigating this new terrain.

2:30 - 3:45 p.m. E-Commerce Battlegrounds: Inside the Black Box of Platform IP Enforcement

Jess Miers, Assistant Professor, the University of Akron School of Law (Moderator)
Michael Doane, Professor, the University of Akron School of Law
Megan Parker, Associate, Benesch Friedlander Coplan & Aronoff
Betsy Rosenblatt, Professor, Case Western Reserve University School of Law

This session will cover issues that arise with infringement and enforcement of intellectual property in e-commerce. We will discuss branding, counterfeiting, and alternate dispute resolution and ADR platforms, among other topics.

3:45 – 4:00 p.m. Break**4:00 – 5:30 p.m. The Ethics of AI in Law Practice: Stay Ethical, Stay Employed**

Douglas Park, Research Professor, the University of Akron School of Law (Moderator)
Malisheia Douglas, Counsel, Squire Patton Boggs
Larry Drasner, Partner, Renner Otto
Jess Miers, Assistant Professor, the University of Akron School of Law

This session will cover a range of topics, including professional responsibility in the age of AI tools, legal ethics in “AI washing,” disclosure obligations to clients and to the USPTO, and avoiding unauthorized practice issues when using AI.

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