



**MESSAGE FROM  
IP SECTION CHAIR  
RIVKA MONHEIT**

Dear IP Section Members,

Happy Holidays!

This bar year we are focusing on developing the IP Law Section's programs and relationships, while reaching out to help those in need. Throughout the year, we will provide you with interesting and informative IP-related CLE programs and pro bono opportunities. Additionally, we are reaching out beyond our existing membership to promote the IP profession to patent agents, law students, younger lawyers, and the broader community.

We recently formed an IP Section Law Students Committee to introduce law students to the IP Section. Thank you to Brittany Slicker, of GSU law school, who prepared the report on the October 24<sup>th</sup> Trademark CLE. We look forward to the participation of the other law student members at our IP Section programs throughout the year.

We are reaching out to Registered Patent Agents in Georgia to invite them to participate in IP Section programs, to join the IP Section as associate members, and to serve on committees.

Although we were unable to run the 2019 IP Institute at Amelia Island due to Hurricane Dorian, you can attend most of the planned CLE courses throughout the bar year. Stay tuned for CLEs relating to Recent developments in Patent Trials and Appeal Board (PTAB) practice and their impact; Bitcoin, Blockchain, and Digital Assets and IP transactions; and Selecting the Right (IP) Tool for the Job: Software and Beyond, among others.



The IP Section hosts three socials during the year. Our next social is the holiday part, on December 5, 2019 from 6-8:30 pm at the Four Seasons. There is no charge for IP Law Section members, however donations to the Atlanta Community Food Bank are encouraged. Additionally, please register at <https://www.gabar.org/calendar/eventdetail.cfm?id=1867549> prior to the event.

The 8<sup>th</sup> Annual IP Gala will occur on February 6, 2020 at the Georgia Aquarium. We will host a mock Federal Circuit argument prior to the IP Gala. Afterwards, mingle and celebrate with fellow IP Section members and members of the broader IP Community. During the IP Gala, we will announce the law student winner of the IP Section law school scholarship.

The IP Section provides numerous opportunities for IP practitioners and those interested in learning more about IP law. Please reach out to me or any of the section leaders to share your suggestions for CLEs or programs.

We look forward to seeing you at IP Section events.

Rivka Monheit  
Intellectual Property Section Chair

December 5, 2019

February 6, 2020

September 2020

## Fall Kick-Off Social



The IP Section began the bar year with the Fall Kick-Off Social on September 18<sup>th</sup> at City Tap House. We enjoyed reconnecting with long-time members and meeting new members as well. We had a great turn out with over 50 people in attendance, and City Tap House provided the IP Section with wonderful food and service. The IP Section appreciates the help of Richard Miller for organizing the Fall Kick-Off Social and making the event a success and Lane Sosebee for running the event and curating the committee volunteer sign-up lists.

A number of members joined committees at the Fall Kick-Off Social, as well. Joining a committee is a great way to get involved in the IP Section, and you can join a committee at any time. Additionally, you can share your ideas for CLEs or volunteer to present or organize a CLE or other program by contacting committee Chairs or Vice Chairs. Contact information for IP Section committees can be found on the Section website located at <http://georgiaip.org/about-us/>.

We received great feedback regarding the event and member interest in getting involved in future IP Section programs, which sets us up for an exciting year to come!

On October 24, 2019, the IP Law Section held a CLE panel discussion titled Top Ten Trademark Events of 2019 at the offices of Alston & Bird. The event was attended by 58 attendees.

Moderated by James Johnson of Eversheds Sutherland, the panel featured Robert Lee of Alston & Bird, Clark Wilson of NeoMed, and Mary Grace Gallagher of Alston & Bird. In light of the changing law within the field of trademarks, the panelists discussed the top ten trademark events this year: 1) the holding of *Iancu v. Brunetti* in which the court found the “scandalous and immoral restriction of trademarks in violation of the First Amendment, 2) the Supreme Court decision in *Mission Products Holdings Inc. v. Tempnology, LLC* where the Court held that the rights of trademark licenses survive bankruptcy, 3) the 2019 amendments to China’s trademark laws, 4) the *Romag Fasteners, Inc. v. Fossil, Inc.* case which the Supreme Court recently granted cert. to determine the proper treatment of a willfulness requirement in this case, 5) the *Lucky Brand Dungarees, Inc. v. Marcel Fashions Group, LLC* case regarding the issue of preclusion, 6) the China OEM decision around trademark infringement and recent conflicting case results, 7) McDonald’s loss of its trademark rights in Europe with respect to the terms “Big Mac” and “Mc,” 8) the history and settlement of the *Variety Stores, Inc. v. Wal-Mart Stores, Inc.* case, 9) the *Girl Scouts of the United States of America v. Boy Scouts of America* case with respect to the question of whether the Boy Scout’s use of the term “Scouts” diminishes the Girl Scout’s trademark value, and 10) the case proceedings of *Christopher Gordon v. Drape Creative, Inc.*

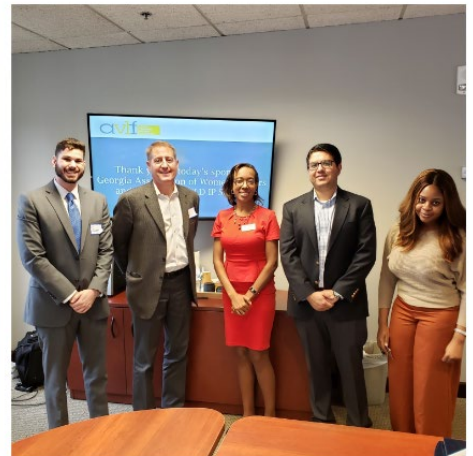
Thank you to everyone who attended, the moderator, the panelists, and all the support staff who made this event possible. Additional thanks to Alston & Bird for hosting and AVLF for its support and its discussion of the variety of opportunities available within its Saturday Lawyer and other programs.

Trademark Committee Chairs Auma Reggy and Jason Rosenberg look forward to putting on additional events over the next year.



On November 23, 2019, the Young Lawyers Division IP Committee co-sponsored a Saturday Lawyer pro bono legal clinic for the Atlanta Volunteer Lawyers Foundation (“AVLF”). Ten attorneys showed up early Saturday morning for consultations with AVLF clients facing landlord-tenant and housing issues. AVLF’s Saturday Lawyer program is its oldest and largest program. For the last forty (40) years it has provided free legal assistance to low-income Atlantans and offered volunteer attorneys a chance to do meaningful pro bono work. Any attorney licensed to practice law in Georgia may participate, and no particular substantive expertise or litigation experience is necessary. The YLD IP Committee has regularly sponsored Saturday Lawyer clinics for the last three (3) years.

We look forward to continuing to sponsor Saturday Lawyer clinics and contributing back to this great community!



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We are very thankful to our wonderful 2019 IP Section Sponsors, shown below!

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**THANK YOU  
TO THE 2019  
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### December 5, 2019 IP Section Holiday Party

*Four Seasons Hotel, Atlanta  
6:00 to 8:30 pm*

*We will be collecting donations for  
Atlanta Community Food Bank*

### February 6, 2020 IP Gala

*Georgia Aquarium*

*CLE from 5-6 pm, Reception 6-7pm,  
and Dinner begins at 7*

### September 2020 IP Institute

*Ritz-Carlton, Amelia Island, FL*

We are currently seeking support for another great year for the IP Section of the State Bar of Georgia. We hope that you will join us by sponsoring the Section and participating in our upcoming events.

Your sponsorship allows the IP Section to support IP practitioners, law students and patent agents; promote the value of protecting Intellectual Property via CLE programs, the IP Institute, pro bono work and informative podcasts; help individuals and companies protect their intellectual property; and support of a variety of IP-related non-profits in Georgia.

Please contact Lane Sosebee (lanes@gabar.org) with any questions.

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Rivka Monheit

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