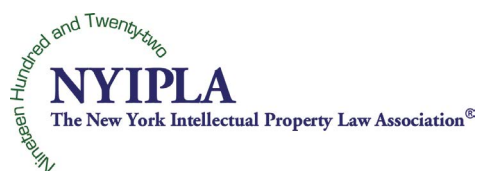


The Bar Around The Corner: New York Intellectual Property Law Association



Association Address/Phone: NYIPLA
Administrative Office: 2125 Center
Avenue, Suite 406, Fort Lee, NJ 07024;
(201) 461-6603

Website: www.nyipla.org

Founded: 1922

Number of Members: 1,300

Brief Association Vision: The Association promotes the development and administration of intellectual property law (IP) and related laws. It provides its membership with an opportunity to make their views known, to advance the development of IP and related law, and to be informed of contemplated, imminent and actual changes to those laws and the practice of those laws. A key mission of the Association is to advance the knowledge of legal professionals, the judiciary, government and the general public by such means as forums, venues and activities.

Brief History: The then-named “New York Patent Law Association” was formed on March 7, 1922. The Association, presided over by William Houston Kenyon, launched into an ambitious program of activities, including support of the Lehlbach Bill, investigation of post-war revival of the Patent Treaty with Germany, and encouragement of improvements in the quarters of the federal courts in New York City.

Now known as the New York Intellectual Property Law Association (NYIPLA)—a name that reflects the Association’s broader mission regarding not only patents but also trademarks, copyrights, trade secrets, and other forms of intellectual property—the Association principally is composed of lawyers interested in patent, trademark and copyright law who live



Full house—The New York Intellectual Property Law Association held its 94th annual dinner in honor of the federal judiciary at the Waldorf Astoria on April 1, with more than 2,600 attendees. Nina Totenberg and Peter Sagal of National Public Radio provided remarks. *[Photo by Christopher Ottaunick]*

or work in the jurisdictions of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit, namely New York, Connecticut and Vermont and the District of New Jersey. Its membership also includes judges and administrative officials, legal educators, law students and others. Some members live or work in other states and foreign countries.

What is your association’s favorite meeting location? The Waldorf Astoria New York (where, historically, the NYIPLA’s annual dinner honoring the federal Judiciary is held) and The Princeton Club, the location of NYIPLA’s Annual Meeting and various CLE events.

What is your association’s most popular outing / social event? The Annual Dinner honoring the federal Judiciary.

The Association’s first annual dinner honoring the federal judiciary (also known as the “judges’ dinner”) was held on Dec. 6, 1922 at the Waldorf-Astoria New York Hotel. It was a rousing success with 258 people in attendance, including Judges Augustus and Learned Hand.

The tradition continued on April 1, the 94th annual dinner in honor of the federal judiciary, with more than 2,500 guests.

About 125 federal judges attended

from various U.S. Courts of Appeals, various U.S. District Courts: the Court of Federal Claims, the Court of International Trade, the International Trade Commission, and the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office. Historically, the attendees also include jurists from various non-U.S. jurisdictions, academic professionals and other legal thought leaders.

What is your association’s goal for next month? Next year? To increase NYIPLA efforts to address the increasing importance—to the U.S. and global economies—of IP laws, and to continue to have an impact on pending legislation affecting intellectual property law and proposed rules and regulations that will impact the practice and administration of that law.

In 2014, the Association launched a new committee, the Legislative Action Committee (LAC). The LAC’s mission is to provide the Association with a voice on important issues and challenges facing intellectual property practitioners and stakeholders by communicating to Congress and federal agencies its views and analysis on proposed legislation and. To accomplish this goal, NYIPLA retained American Continental Group (ACG), a public policy advocacy group.

The Association’s efforts are geared

toward helping legislators enact legislation that best fosters (and protects) innovation and to better understand the implications that proposed legislation could have on the IP system and on the enforcement and defense of IP rights in court. This need complements the diversity of the Association, whose members serve as outside and in-house counsel, represent a broad spectrum of interests and have nationwide practices.

The Association’s diverse membership gives us an opportunity to assess proposed legislation with the advantage of being able to see all sides of an issue without bias toward any particular industry, analyzing and developing proposed solutions aimed at fairness to stakeholders overall.

What is your association’s most important current project / initiative?

There are several initiatives and programs that are of importance to the Association. The NYIPLA Amicus Briefs Committee is, for example, one of the most important projects / committees of the Association.

The Association continues its strong history of representing its constituency before the courts through that committee, which coordinates the Association’s preparation and filing of briefs *amicus curiae* and makes recommendations from the Board of Directors. In the last year, the Association has filed four briefs *amicus curiae* in the Supreme Court and three in the Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit. A number of those briefs were favorably cited by the respective courts, an affirmation that the Association is meeting its goal of providing to the bench unbiased, knowledgeable, thoughtful guidance. ♦

The Bar Around The Corner is a project of the State Bar’s Committee for Bar Leaders of New York State.