

Federal Circuit Bar Association

BENCH & BAR®

2026 Bench & Bar® in Dialogue – Chicago Agenda

Revised 10/1/26

Tuesday, October 6, 2026

University Club of Chicago | Chicago, IL

12:45 PM – 1:15 PM

Registration

1:15 PM – 1:20 PM

Welcome Remarks

1:20 PM – 2:05 PM

Panel One: Pleading Standards Post *Hikma v. Amarin* – In June, the Supreme Court ruled in the *Hikma v. Amarin* skinny-label dispute that Amarin had not adequately pleaded induced infringement. While fraud implicates a heightened pleading standard, the deficiency in *Hikma* did not relate to the intent element of inducement, but instead to whether Hikma had taken active steps to encourage infringement. The panel will explore the implications of the Supreme Court’s ruling not only for Hatch-Waxman pharmaceutical litigation, but also for pleading standards generally under *Twombly* and *Iqbal*.

Moderator:

- Mary T. Hannon, Sidley Austin LLP

Panelists:

- Ryan Daniel, Fresenius Kabi
- Joseph T. Jaros, Rakoczy Molino Mazzochi Siwik LLP
- Emily J. Savas, Buchanan Ingersoll & Rooney PC
- Jason G. Winchester, Jones Day
- Marc N. Zubick, Latham & Watkins LLP

2:05 PM – 3:10 PM

Panel Two: Chicago’s Role in Enforcing Patents Against Online Infringers – The Northern District of Illinois has become the undisputed epicenter of “Schedule A” IP litigation—mass-defendant enforcement actions that have reshaped how brand owners combat online counterfeiting and infringement. With over 4,000 cases filed and the district handling more than 80% of all Schedule A suits nationally, these cases raise fundamental questions at the intersection of intellectual property, civil procedure, due process, international enforcement, expediency, and conservation of judicial resources. This panel will bring together key voices from the bench, practicing bar, and academia to examine where Schedule A litigation stands today and where it is headed.

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Moderator:

- James Lovsin, McDonnell Boehnen Hulbert & Berghoff LLP

Panelists:

- Judge, United States District Court for the Northern District of Illinois
- Laryssa Bedley, Barnes & Thornburg
- David R. Bennett, Direction IP Law
- R. David Donoghue, Holland & Knight LLP
- Sarah Fackrell, Chicago-Kent College of Law

3:10 PM – 3:30 PM

Networking Break

3:30 PM – 4:15 PM

Panel Three: Review of Recent Federal Circuit Remedies Decisions and Their Implications – This panel will provide updates on recent developments on various remedies issues, including damages, injunctions, and other equitable relief. This will include an update on the Federal Circuit's recent decisions on damages post-*EcoFactor* in *Willis Electric v. Polygroup* and *Exafer v. Microsoft*. The panel will also explore recent developments in obtaining injunctive relief such as the Federal Circuit's domestic industry decisions in *Lashify* and the consequent availability of exclusion orders to potential new complainants.

Moderator:

- Adam G. Kelly, Venable LLP

Panelists:

- Judge, United States District Court for the Northern District of Illinois
- David Gosse, Nokia
- Barry Irwin, Irwin IP LLP
- Hari Santhanam, Ashurst Perkins Coie

4:15 PM – 5:15 PM

Panel Four: Federal Circuit Judicial Panel — Hear perspectives from the Federal Circuit judges on best practices for appellate lawyering, not only about appeal briefing and argument, but also about amicus briefing and en banc proceedings. Also learn about the judge's views on various topics such as the value of away

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sittings and the benefits of district court judges sitting by designation at the Federal Circuit. Gain insight into their views on the opportunities and challenges for new attorneys as the practice of law rapidly evolves.

Moderator:

- Sandra Kuzmich, President, Federal Circuit Bar Association®
| Partner, Haug Partners LLP

Panelists:

- Judges of U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit (TBA)

5:15 PM – 5:25 PM

Federal Circuit Update on Community Engagement

5:30 PM – 6:00 PM

Panel Five: Fireside Chat with the Chiefs

Moderator:

- Judge, United States District Court for the Northern District of Illinois

Panelists:

- Judge, United States Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit
- Judge, United States Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit

6:00 PM – 7:00 PM

Reception

7:00 PM – 9:00 PM

Dinner