

November 10, 2014

The Honorable Patrick J. Leahy  
Chairman  
Committee on the Judiciary  
United States Senate  
224 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Charles L. Grassley  
Ranking Member  
Committee on the Judiciary  
United States Senate  
152 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

**Re: Nomination for United States Intellectual Property Enforcement Coordinator**

Dear Chairman Leahy and Ranking Member Grassley:

I am writing on behalf of the American Intellectual Property Law Association (“AIPLA”) to express our support for the Senate Judiciary Committee moving forward with the confirmation of the United States Intellectual Property Enforcement Coordinator. The Intellectual Property Enforcement Coordinator plays a critical role within the White House to ensure that the agencies tasked with the enforcement of U.S. intellectual property rights are taking a coordinated and cooperative approach.

AIPLA is a national bar association with approximately 15,000 members who are primarily lawyers in private and corporate practice and government service and in the academic community. AIPLA’s members represent a wide and diverse spectrum of individuals, companies, and institutions, and are involved directly or indirectly in the practice of patent, trademark, copyright, and unfair competition law. Our members represent both owners and users of intellectual property.

The U.S. economy thrives on jobs created by intellectual property through the investment in the innovation of new products and creative works. Effective intellectual property enforcement is not only essential to American businesses, but also vital for the protection of U.S. consumers from harmful counterfeit products. AIPLA supported the creation of the Intellectual Property Enforcement Coordinator in the PRO-IP Act to ensure that the U.S. has a strong leader within the Administration to respond to the ever growing challenges related to intellectual property theft.

Since the creation of this role, AIPLA has engaged with the Office of the Enforcement Coordinator on a number of important issues and we look forward to continued involvement once the new Intellectual Property Enforcement Coordinator is confirmed. This important position has been vacant for over a year, and AIPLA urges the Committee to move forward with the confirmation process. We thank you in advance for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Sharon A. Israel  
President  
American Intellectual Property Law Association