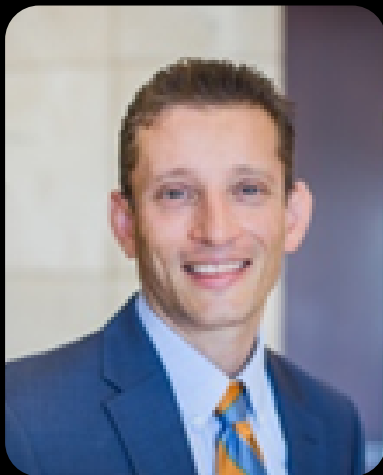


NEWSLETTER



Ivan Hannel
General Counsel
Zoe Holding Company

Message From the Network Chair

As my year as Chair of the Litigation Network comes to a close, I want to express my deep gratitude to the entire leadership team—Jennifer Denny, Abby Adams, Shane Mulrooney, and Brian Murren—upon whom I have entirely relied to carry both me and the Network to our forthcoming Annual Conference.

A special thank-you goes to my Vice-Chair, Jennifer Denny, who has been an invaluable partner throughout the year. Jennifer will soon be joining Sandberg Phoenix & von Gontard PC in St. Louis as corporate counsel, focusing on business litigation, so she will not inherit the powerful baton entrusted to this chair.

We will all miss her insight, good cheer, and tremendous organizational skill. I know I speak for everyone in wishing her great success in this next chapter. Stay connected with Jennifer in her new role—and for those attending the Litigation Connect lunch on Monday, challenge her to a chess match.

I plan to do the same, though I confess I'll be quietly adding extra pawns to the board as needed.

Our thanks also go to our outstanding sponsor, Cozen O'Connor—coordinated by the estimable Julie Kessler—for their steadfast support. Cozen O'Connor deserves our recognition and, whenever possible, our business for investing in us as corporate counsel through excellent programming and unwavering partnership as new legal issues arise. And don't miss Cozen's event at the Philadelphia Museum of Art this Sunday—it promises to be one of the highlights of the conference.

Looking ahead, I'm delighted to welcome Abby Adams as the incoming Chair of the Litigation Network and Shane Mulrooney as Vice-Chair. Abby was truly the driving force behind this year's Annual Meeting, and Shane has done tremendous work in developing our new Dispute Prevention and Alternative Dispute Resolution Subcommittee, alongside our new friend, Duncan MacKay. I'd be remiss not to thank Brian Murren as well for keeping me on task with these newsletters and for his many other contributions to the Network—thank you, Brian. I have no doubt that 2025–2026 will be an exceptional year for the Network, and I predict we'll see a well-deserved Network Award by this time next year.

Finally, my sincere thanks to Max Colby, our ACC Network Liaison. Max's behind-the-scenes efforts make everything we do possible. I could easily fill an entire newsletter describing his contributions, so I'll simply say this: his quiet work is what makes things happen.

To everyone else—please stay active and contribute to the Litigation Network in whatever ways you can. As with any organized human endeavor, it's the people who make things happen—and make them worth happening. Play a part! It's fun, it helps, and it's for the general good.

Please say hello if you see me at the Annual Meeting. I love meeting new people and reconnecting with old acquaintances. I'll be doing some early morning walks most days—because I refuse to run unless someone is chasing me—and if you want to hear a few wild stories about UFOs and Congress, pull me aside!

Best to all, and see you soon.

Yours,

Ivan Hannel

October 19, 2025 – Cozen O'Connor Cocktails & Dinner at The Philadelphia Museum of Art

– [REGISTER HERE](#)

October 20, 2025 – Litigation Network NetConnect at the Annual Meeting
– 12:15 – 1:45 P.M. ET

Room 104 – Philadelphia Convention Center – enjoy lunch with your fellow Litigation Network members, meet next year's leadings, talk about how you could get more involved, and network with a topic focus of civility and sportsmanship in litigation and what it has meant in your practice.



October 20, 2025 – ANNUAL MEETING – Session #M33 – The Quest for Creating and Managing Effective Outside Counsel Relationships

– October 20 at 1:45 PM - Room 115

October 20, 2025 – ANNUAL MEETING – Session #M41 – Should You Be Writing this Down? How to Write Minutes that Matter (Co-Sponsored with Corporate and Securities Network)

– October 20 at 3:15 PM - Terrace Ballroom 3&4

October 22, 2025 – ANNUAL MEETING – Session #W20 – Fighting Frivolous Filings: Navigating the Rise of Meritless Litigation Claims

– October 22 at 9:00 AM - Room 121

Upcoming Litigation Network Events

November 20, 2025 – Litigation Network Legal Update – Bankruptcy and Real Estate Lawyers Dealing with Distressed Real Estate (Co-Sponsored with Real Estate Network)

– [REGISTER HERE](#)

CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS!!!!

Have you ever considered joining our committee? The Litigation Network committee is always open to potential new members for upcoming year. If you have any questions about available roles, time commitments, etc., please reach out to shane@neweraadr.com with your interests and questions!



**Cozen
Spotlight**

Wendy Klein Keane
Member
wkleinkeane@cozen.com

Wendy is a member of Cozen O'Connor's Commercial Litigation Department and a construction lawyer who represents owners, developers, contractors, and design professionals in all phases of the construction and dispute resolution process. She has litigated significant construction claims from the owner, developer, contractor, and design professional perspectives, with experience in court and arbitration. She counsels clients through all phases of the construction process, including contract drafting and negotiation, bidding, contract administration, litigation, and alternative dispute resolution proceedings. Prior to joining the firm, she served as vice president and litigation and risk management counsel for Toll Brothers, Inc. While at Toll Brothers, she provided day-to-day counseling and managed litigation and arbitration for various homebuilding divisions. She also worked closely with Toll Brothers' Risk Management Department.



**Cozen
Spotlight**

Jennifer Nellany
Member
jnellany@cozen.com

Jennifer is a member of Cozen O'Connor's Real Estate Practice. She assists clients with drafting and negotiating complex commercial agreements, structuring debt and equity transactions (including M&A transactions and joint ventures), advising on corporate governance matters, drafting compliance materials, and advising on domestic and cross-border legal and regulatory issues, among other capabilities. She has extensive experience providing legal advice on hospitality-related matters, both as in-house counsel and in private practice. Prior to joining Cozen O'Connor, Jennifer served as general counsel for a national diversified real estate owner, developer, and operator, where she was responsible for all legal matters at the company, including managing the company's litigation portfolio. Before that, she was the general counsel and chief compliance officer for a privately held real estate and investment company, where she oversaw legal and compliance matters for multiple business lines and launched the company's first third-party fund. She has also provided legal services to the family office function at both organizations. Additionally, she served as the general counsel for a public hotel company and as global general counsel and secretary for the world's largest independent provider of directory assistance.



Member Spotlight

*Ralph Carter
Senior Counsel, Litigation
& Cybersecurity Legal
Workday, Inc.*

Ralph Carter is Senior Counsel, Litigation & Cybersecurity Legal at Workday, Inc., an Enterprise Management Cloud software provider. As a member of Workday's Legal, Compliance and Corporate Affairs team, Ralph provides strategic guidance and counseling in matters relating to litigation, dispute resolution and cybersecurity preparedness and response.

Ralph is a certified mediator in the State of New York and is a member of the 2024 cohort of the American Arbitration Association's Higginbotham Fellows Program.

Ralph is a committed contributor in Workday's DEI initiatives, serving on Legal Department's Value Inclusion Belonging Equity (VIBE) Committee and the committee for Workday's Legal Fellows Program, which offers a direct track from law school to an in-house career at Workday.

Prior to joining Workday, Ralph served as senior associate at an AmLaw 100 law firm, where he managed complex commercial litigation and ADR matters in federal and state courts, as well as internal investigations and regulatory matters before various governmental agencies.

Ralph is a cum laude graduate of the evening program at St. John's University School of Law, where he was a Ronald H. Brown Scholar and served as Executive Notes and Comments Editor for the Journal of Civil Rights and Economic Development.

Ralph is a committed St. John's Law alumnus and member of the board of the law school's Alumni Association; Ralph served as President of the St. John's Law School Alumni Association from 2021 through 2022. Ralph is an ardent supporter of the law school's pipeline programs and diversity initiatives.

Ralph serves as Treasurer to the Commercial and Federal Litigation Section of the New York State Bar Association. Ralph is a board member of the Westchester/Southern Connecticut chapter of the Association of Corporate Counsel.

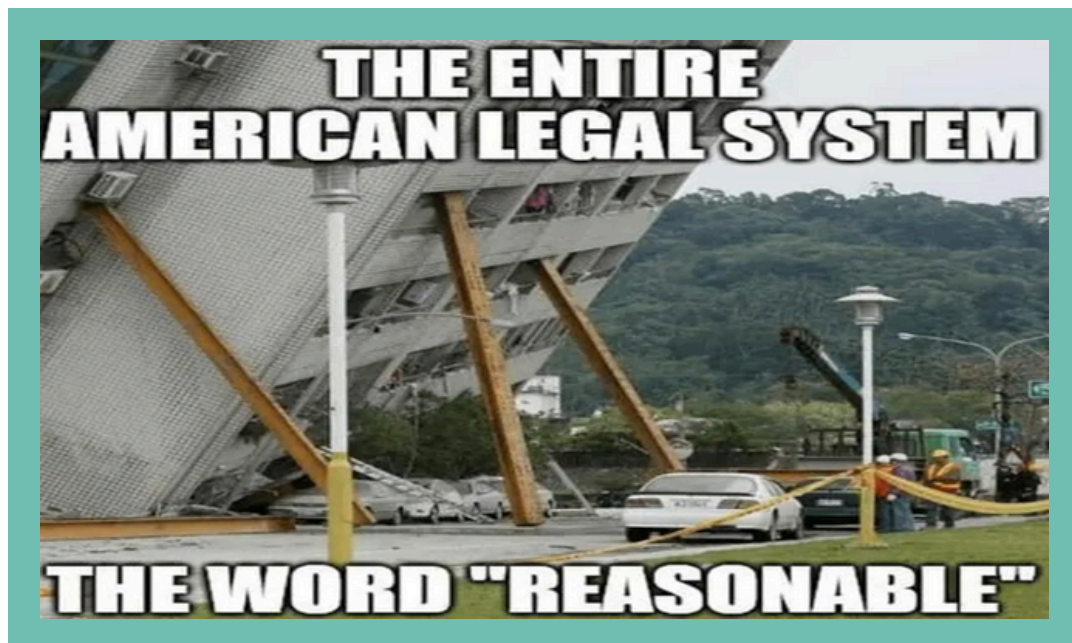
Ralph also serves on the board of A Call to Men, a violence prevention organization and respected leader on issues of manhood, male socialization, and its intersection with violence, and preventing violence against all women and girls.

Litigation Laughs

Encountering any nuanced procedural or case law issues?

Need any general guidance on navigating new legislation or regulations?

Let's hear from you in the Litigation Discussion Forum!





Leadership Team

2025 ACC Litigation Network Leadership

Chair

Ivan Hannel
General /Counsel
Zoe Holding Company
(602) 710-7573
ihannel@zoeholdingco.com

Membership Chairs

Shane Mulrooney
Co-Founder & General Counsel
New Era ADR
(630) 853-8536
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Vice-Chair

Jennifer Denny
Senior Litigation Counsel
Cardinal Financial Company, LP
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Brian Murren

Assistant General Counsel
Pennsylvania Automotive Association
(717) 255-8311
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Legal Update Program Chairs

Julianna Hanlon
Legal Counsel
Mass General Brigham
jjhanlon@mgb.org

Where to find the ACC
Litigation Network:

Annual Meeting Chairs

Abby Adams
VP, General Counsel
National Association of Home Builders
(212) 266-8345
aadams@nahb.org

LinkedIn: [Click Here](#)

ACC Litigation Network

Website: [Click Here](#)

