

NEWSLETTER



Abby Adams
General Counsel,
National Association
of Home Builders

Message From the Network Chair

After serving on the Litigation Network Committee for the past three years, I'm excited to step into the role of Chair this year. I've been an ACC member for over a decade, and fun fact, I even worked at ACC for a short time. ACC has been an invaluable resource for me, especially during my transition from law firm practice to an in-house role. I'm grateful for the opportunity to give back by serving on this committee and collaborating with my outstanding fellow chairs and our Network Sponsor, Cozen O'Connor, to develop programming that benefits our members.

We all know that litigation is growing at an incredible pace, and we're committed to giving you the tools and resources to stay ahead. This year, we're focused on delivering programming that's timely, relevant, and impactful, and we would love your input on what topics would be most valuable. Please share your ideas with us anytime and remember, the best way to get involved is by joining the committee – we'd love to have you!

I look forward to a fantastic year ahead and look forward to connecting with you – whether through the committee, at an in-person event, or virtually!

**November 20, 2025 –
Relief, Remedies, and Reorganizations:
Resolving Real Estate Distress
(Co-Sponsored with Real Estate Network)**

[REGISTER HERE](#)

Have an idea or request for a legal update topic? Email Max Colby at m.colby@acc.com



WHAT'S NEW IN THE LITIGATION NETWORK

Litigation Committee Members needed!

We are seeking some volunteers to serve on the committee for this upcoming year. Specifically, we need to fill the Legal Update Chair and Social Media Chair positions, as well as a co-chair for Chris for Annual Meeting Programming. Take our **[NETWORK SURVEY](#)** to indicate your interest!

The role descriptions can be provided upon request. You can learn more about our network here: [Litigation Network | Association of Corporate Counsel \(ACC\)](#).

New Updates on the Litigation Community Webpage:

1. An "Unanswered Questions," section has been added to help answer every question asked on the forum. Check it out through the [LINK HERE](#)
2. A new research assistant on the forum powered by AI has been added to assist with search through discussion threads for specific topics – look at the bottom right of the page linked above.



Cozen Spotlight

Walter Stella
Member
wstella@cozen.com

Walter is a member of Cozen O'Connor's Labor & Employment Department. He has more than 30 years of experience advising employers on challenging workplace issues and providing practical solutions that minimize legal exposure in a heavily regulated business environment. Walter represents some of Silicon Valley's most dynamic corporate players, from Big Tech giants and high-profile tech-adjacent foundations to emerging businesses and ambitious startups. He frequently operates as outside general counsel on employment law, meaning that major clients rely on him as their first point of contact when employment issues arise. Walter is widely respected for his ability to assess problems, design smart legal strategies, and oversee cost-effective resolutions. In his own day-to-day practice, Walter handles employment law litigation, settlement negotiations, and arbitrations; negotiates executive contracts and advises directors and officers on personal liability and indemnification matters; and provides proactive state and federal regulatory counselling.

Outside of his private practice, Walter is deeply involved in the Bay Area legal community and pro bono service. He routinely advises the Equal Justice Society and National Center for Youth Law on employment law issues, and he serves as the lead organizer of bi-annual one-day pro bono employment law clinic run through a partnership between the San Francisco Bar Association's Justice Diversity Center and the Association of Corporate Counsel's Bay Area Chapter.



Member Spotlight

**Christopher DiLeo Associate
General Counsel Leader of IP
Legal Operations Division
Becton, Dickinson & Company**

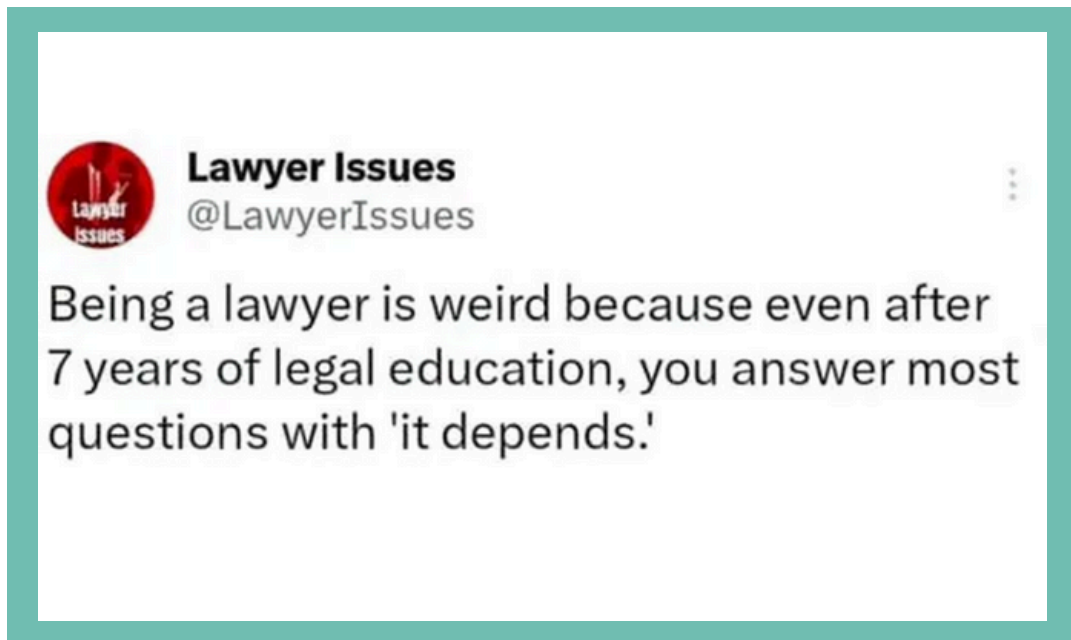
Christopher is a recovering software engineer turned intellectual property attorney, bringing a unique perspective shaped by roles as an R&D contributor, project manager, law firm partner, and in-house counsel.

At Becton, Dickinson and Company, Christopher serves as Associate General Counsel, focusing on offensive and defensive IP strategies for innovation and advising on IP aspects of commercial transactions, including licensing, corporate development, data rights, and strategic partnerships. I also lead our IP Legal Operations team, leveraging leadership and project management experience to simplify processes, foster collaboration, and drive innovative solutions.

Outside of BD, Chris chairs the ACC IP Network and most recently joined the leadership for the ACC Litigation Network. Chris looks forward to using his experience and expertise to benefit the Litigation Network.

Would you like to be featured in an upcoming Litigation Newsletter? We would love to hear from you! This is a great opportunity to feature your role, your company, or your #morethanalawyer achievements!

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



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

2026 ACC Litigation Network Leadership

Chair

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Vice Chair

Shane Mulrooney
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Legal Update Chair

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Membership Chair

Brian Murren
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ADR Subcommittee Chair

Duncan MacKay
Deputy General Counsel & CCO
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Where to find the ACC Litigation Network:

LinkedIn: [Click Here](#)

ACC Litigation Network
Website: [Click Here](#)



Litigation Network