# Patent Issues, Litigation and Policy in Post Pandemic

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#### **Intros**

#### **Panelists:**

- Sanders N. Hillis, Brinks, Gilson & Lione
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#### **Moderator:**

 Pervin R Taleyarkhan, Legal Counsel, Whirlpool Corporation; Director, USPTO Clinic IU McKinney School of Law

#### Overview

- Procedural aspects of litigation
  - A look back at 2020
  - A peek into 2021 and beyond
- Substantive aspects
  - Case Law Highlights
- Q&A

#### A Reminder of Litigation in 2020 - What was it like (then and now)?

- Pre-Pandemic posture:
  - Nothing remote (preference for in-person)
  - Forced remote procedure
- Geographic boundaries disappeared
  - Impact on scheduling and availabilities of key witnesses
  - In-person versus remote? Preferences?
- The "COVID Card"
- Examples / Recollections of Pandemic Highlights:
  - Virtual Filter "Fun" (not so fun):
    - Cat lawyer
    - Also: Losing access, dropped calls, filter frenzies (upside down attendees, awkward moments,...)
  - Court / professional meeting decorum
- Are we out of the pandemic era?

## Remote working - Is it working?

- Experiences on:
  - Depositions
  - Mediations
  - Discovery
  - Trials
  - Hearings
  - Expert witnesses
  - Focus groups
- What are the benefits / risks of remote working?
- Scheduling conundrums?
  - Calendaring / travel
  - Court schedules / conflicts
- ABA Ethics opinion a sign that remote is here to stay?

# Case Law - What will impact patent law Post-Pandemic?

- American Axle
  - Section 101 extended to mechanical arts
- Super Interconnect Techs. LLC v. Google LLC
  - Venue case
  - (Google servers are not enough for venue)
- United States v. Arthrex Inc.
  - Administrative law, but impacts patent law
  - What is the future of the PTAB?
  - What will happen to cases currently in a "holding pattern" pending Arthrex decision?

# Takeaways - Pandemic

- Procedurally: What Will Litigation Look Like Post-Pandemic?
  - Court- / Judge- / Jurisdiction-dependent
  - Generally expect a hybrid approach of in-person
  - Application of ABA Ethics Guidance
- Substantively: What Will Case Law Look Like Post-Pandemic?
  - Venue
    - Super Interconnect Techs. LLC v. Google LLC
  - More to come on Section 101
    - American Axle
  - Guidance on the Constitutionality of Patent Board's Structure Arthrex

## Thank you! Questions?

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