

Inventing America presents 250 Years of Patent-Powered Progress

at the offices of Covington & Burling LLP
hosted by a Coalition of Innovators
850 10th Street, NW, Washington, DC
May 11, 2026

- 1:30 p.m. Registration
- 2:00 p.m. Welcome by Brian Pomper, Executive Director, Innovation Alliance
- 2:05 p.m. Introduction of Rep. Hank Johnson (D-GA), Ranking Member of House Judiciary Committee Subcommittee on Courts, Intellectual Property, Artificial Intelligence, and the Internet, by Matt Shapanka, Of Counsel, Covington & Burling
- 2:10 p.m. Address by Ranking Member Johnson
- 2:30 p.m. Q&A for Ranking Member Johnson
- 2:45 p.m. Panel I – Inventor First Patent Policy: The Second Trump Administration
- Walter Copan, Former Under Secretary of Commerce for Standards and Technology
 - John Dubiansky, Senior Director, Intellectual Property and Standards Policy, Dolby Laboratories
 - Nicholas Matich, Deputy General Counsel for Intellectual Property Law and Solicitor, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
 - Peter-Anthony Pappas, Director of Intellectual Property Policy, Senate Committee on the Judiciary
- Moderated by Gene Quinn, Founder and CEO, IPWatchdog, Inc.
- 3:45 p.m. Panel II – How Patents Make America Stronger
- Brendan McCommas, Deputy Legal Advisor, Department of State
 - Laurie Self, Senior Vice President and Counsel, Government Affairs, Qualcomm
 - Almesha Campbell, VP Research and Economic Development, Jackson State University
 - Andrew Toole, former USPTO Chief Economist
- Moderated by Morgan Schruers, Special Counsel, Covington & Burling
- 4:45 p.m. Introduction of USPTO Deputy Director Coke Stewart by Holly Fechner, Partner Covington & Burling
- 4:50 p.m. Keynote Address by USPTO Deputy Director Coke Stewart
- 5:20 p.m. Q&A for USPTO Deputy Director Coke Stewart
- 5:35 p.m. Conference concludes and happy hour reception