

Frank Cullen

I'd be remiss if I did not invite a real leader for the IP community -- someone who brings a great perspective to these issues and [is] well-experienced -- Judge Paul Michel to offer a few of his thoughts.

Judge Paul Michel (Ret.)

Thank you, Frank. And thank you to all of you for being here for supporting C4IP, and actually for supporting the future of our country, because everything is at stake: global competitiveness, technological leadership, job creation, better salaries for our workers... on and on, they're all connected to the IP system. We absolutely must get this right. If I can put it in personal terms, Judge O'Malley -- who, because of an injury, is not able to be with us here tonight, although she, like myself, is on the board and happy to be on the board -- we willingly gave up a lifetime appointment at a job we loved, really loved, and imagined we'd stay at forever, in order to be able to participate in these policy debates that are so important to the short-term and long-term future of the country. When I get a call from Andrei and Dave to do anything, I would automatically say yes anyway, but this call was totally irresistible. And so I'm thrilled to be part of it. It's an all-star team. There was a meeting earlier today of members and consultants and staff, and so forth. It truly is the best team I've ever been a part of. If it continues to get the support it deserves, there's no stopping it. Thank you all.