

November 2024
ACC Litigation Network Monthly Newsletter

Message from the Network Chair – Ivan Hannel, General Counsel, Zoe Holding Company



Hello Litigation Network!

I'm thrilled to serve as your chairperson for the year, alongside my amazing colleagues who truly drive and lead this community. I'd like to share a bit about myself and look forward to getting to know each of you as we connect.

I grew up in Phoenix, Arizona, when it was a large town in the late '70s and '80s—a "Stranger Things" sort of life. My mother, born in Mexico, joined a convent to pursue an education but ultimately ended up at UCLA, where she met my father, who was of Jewish descent. Together, they formed a unique cultural union. One favorite story from those days: my mom took the GRE for a fellow student, got caught, and was then offered a scholarship to Vanderbilt's graduate psychology program—times were different in the '60s! Both my parents became psychologists and educators, inspiring my own career in education for nearly a decade, where I worked to help K-12 teachers ask better questions. I even wrote a book, *A Pedagogy of Questioning*, out of a passion for engaging children's unique talents.

I attended Yale ('93) and Northwestern Law ('96). I began my legal career on the plaintiff's side in Phoenix before moving to the corporate world as general counsel for a temporary staffing company, Zoe Holding Company, in 2018. Since joining the ACC, I've had opportunities to give talks, including a TED-style presentation on police use of force. Outside of law, I trained in mixed martial arts for over a decade until my body protested, and while I love tennis, it's a similarly "prohibited" activity. And no, I haven't tried pickleball yet—but I'm sure it's only a matter of time.

Today, I live in Petaluma, California, with my wonderful partner, Erica, an artist; our incredible 11-year-old son; four cats who run the house; and a disloyal dog named Essie Davis. Recently, I finished building a duplex, gained hands-on construction experience, co-own and manage a gas station with a friend, and just bought a new small business. Life is an adventure, and I'm always eager to learn and try new things, often finding myself in amusing situations, for better or worse.

On November 13, 2024, I'll have the honor of representing a witness before the U.S. House Oversight Committee in Washington, DC. If you're around and would like to meet up, please reach out! You can contact me directly to 602-710-7573 (text/Signal/WhatsApp).

This year, my goal for the Litigation Network is to deepen our connections. I hope members from North America and beyond can build relationships, share skills, and grow our community. With support from our partner Cozen O'Connor, I believe the Litigation Network can bring something valuable to each of you.

Thank you for reading, and please feel free to reach out any time.

Upcoming Events

December 4th, 2024 - Legal Update – Litigation Budgeting: Through the Looking Glass. [REGISTER HERE](#)

January 9, 2024 – PART THREE – COZEN O’CONNOR MASTERCLASS SERIES ON SETTLEMENT AGREEMENTS: Drafting Effective and Enforceable Settlement Agreements. [ONLINE LEARNING CENTER](#)

Have an idea or request for a legal update topic? Email the program chairs at: S. Michael Lee at Smichael.lee@engaging.ai or Julianna Hanlon at jihanlon@mqb.org.

Spotlight on Cozen O’Connor –



James Argionis, Member, jargionis@cozen.com

Jim has extensive experience and an impressive record of success as a business trial lawyer. He has handled high-profile litigation, provided legal counseling, conducted investigations, and overseen matters related to contractual, regulatory, employment, and internal compliance issues. Jim has worked on a wide range of complex multi-party business and commercial litigation trials, arbitrations, appeals, and investigations. His experience includes both litigating a broad range of disputes and counseling on mitigating potential areas of risk including those related to contracts, business torts, shareholder disputes, directors' and officers' liability, employment matters, fraud, defamation, privacy, compliance, cybersecurity, intellectual property, partnerships, joint ventures, and real estate related disputes, including leases and purchase agreements. Jim also handles corporate investigations and provides his clients with general business counseling on a variety of topics. He has considerable experience prosecuting and defending temporary restraining orders/injunctions and other equitable relief matters.



Amy Doig, Member, adoig@cozen.com

Amy represents individuals and entities in litigated matters often concerning disputes such as breach of contract, privacy, construction defects, construction management, and design professional's work. She has experience with both individual and class action litigation in state and federal court. She also practices in the areas of transportation & logistics and insurance coverage. Amy is lead defense counsel in a BIPA class action and a key member of the defense team in multiple other BIPA class actions. Her BIPA experience includes drafting amended answers and affirmative defenses and motions to dismiss based on novel arguments addressing recent case law developments. Amy frequently represents BIPA clients in court hearings in both state and federal court.



Miguel Alexander Pozo, Member, mpozo@cozen.com

Miguel is a seasoned and trusted business partner, trial lawyer, and compliance professional with nearly 30 years of experience. He uses his significant in-house experience, including as Head of U.S. Litigation for Mercedes-Benz USA, to assist clients in taking calculated risks to advance their business objectives. Additionally, having twice served as a general counsel to companies in highly regulated industries, and in particular as a chief compliance officer in the health care industry, he brings a unique lens through which he views and helps clients mitigate enterprise-wide risk. Miguel has represented Fortune 500 corporations, nonprofits, and companies of all sizes in the health care, biopharmaceutical, automotive, and consumer/retail goods industries, to name a few. He has litigated cases across the country in matters involving breach of contract, unfair competition, tortious interference, and theft of trade secrets, among others. He also counsels clients on trademark and brand protection issues, conducts internal investigations, and provides strategic, management-side advice on all aspects of the employer-employee relationship.

Litigation Network Member Spotlight



Betsy is a seasoned and highly experienced executive, strategist, and leader. She stands as the highest-ranking female executive, responsible for overseeing multiple departments and spearheading impactful organization-wide changes as the Chief Legal Officer at the Washington Nationals. Her initiatives include championing pay equity, Employee Resource Groups (ERGs), and optimizing business processes for enhanced efficiency. Betsy excels as a successful lawyer, offering vigilant oversight for business operations, adeptly drafting and negotiating complex contracts, and staunchly defending the organization's interests. She demonstrates a strong ability to identify and assess legal risks within intricate business landscapes, ensuring strict compliance with relevant laws and regulations.

Early in her career, from 2003 to 2005, Betsy served as a Litigation Legal Assistant at Weil Gotshal and Manges in Washington, D.C. From 2008 to 2013, she was an Associate at McDermott Will and Emery in Washington, D.C. In 2013 and 2014, Betsy performed as a Law Clerk for the Major League Soccer Players Union in Bethesda, Maryland. From 2016 to 2021, she functioned as a Capstone Advisor of the Sports Industry Management Program at Georgetown University in Washington, D.C.

In 2014, Betsy launched her long career at Washington Nationals Baseball Club, LLC., a Major League Baseball team based in Washington, D.C., as the Legal Affairs Specialist. Her career trajectory reflects a series of prominent advancements, including Counsel from 2016 to 2018, Deputy General Counsel from 2018 to 2020, Vice President and General Counsel from 2020 to 2022, and Senior Vice President and General Counsel from 2022 to 2024.

In 2024, Betsy embarked on a new journey as the Chief Legal Officer, paving the way for the organization by spearheading the legal, risk management, human resources, and information technology departments. She effectively oversees the day-to-day operations encompassing a broad spectrum of responsibilities, including commercial transactions, corporate governance, intellectual property, negotiations, employment and risk management, litigation, strategic planning, and regulatory compliance. Betsy settled multiple decades-long disputes resulting in hundreds of millions in settlement for her client. She also enabled the execution of multiple first-of-their-kind eight figure sponsorship agreements with cryptocurrency and sports betting companies.

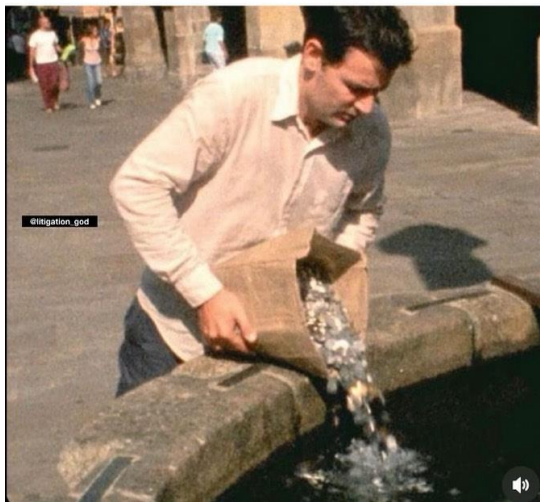
Betsy holds a Doctor of Juris Prudence degree from Vanderbilt University Law School, a Master of Professional Studies degree in Sports Industry Management from Georgetown University, and a Bachelor of Arts degree with distinction, in Psychology and a minor in Biology from the University of Virginia. Betsy is a widely acclaimed leader, receiving numerous awards and honors that include features in VanGuard Magazine in 2021, Profile Magazine in 2022, and Washington Lawyer Magazine in 2023. In 2022, she earned the prestigious "Outstanding Chief Legal Officer" award from ACC National Capital Region. Betsy's strategic acumen has been showcased on prominent podcasts, such as "In-House Influence" in 2022, "How I Lawyer" in 2023, and "Parents at Work" in 2024.

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

Me wishing that my case settles before the holidays:



Partner: "How's everyone?"

Associate who has been up for 24 hrs straight:



Any unique holiday plans this year?

What about planned New Years Resolutions?

Let's hear from you in the [Litigation Discussion Forum!](#)

2024 ACC Litigation Network Leadership		
Chair	Ivan Hannel General /Counsel Zoe Holding Company (602) 710-7573 ihannel@zoeholdingco.com	
Vice-Chair	Jennifer Denny Senior Litigation Counsel Cardinal Financial Company, LP (636) 565-0716 jennifer.denny@cardinalfinancial.com	
Legal Update Program Chairs	S. Michael Lee COO & CLO Engaging.ai (408) 431-1224 Smichael.lee@engaging.ai	Julianna Hanlon Legal Counsel Mass General Brigham jihanlon@mgb.org
Annual Meeting Chairs	Abby Adams VP, General Counsel National Association of Home Builders (212) 266-8345 aadams@nahb.org	Beverly Garner Associate General Counsel Bunge (314) 292-02514 Beverly.Garner@bunge.com
Membership Chairs	Shane Mulrooney Co-Founder & General Counsel New Era ADR (630) 853-8536 shane@neweraadr.com	Brian Murren Assistant General Counsel Pennsylvania Automotive Association bmurren@paa.org
Where to find the ACC Litigation Network: LinkedIn: Click Here ACC Litigation Network Website: Click Here		