

## COMMITTEE DESCRIPTIONS

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### E-COMMERCE AND IT DIVISION

#### **E-Commerce Payment**

This committee deals with the payment side of e-commerce, as well as other forms of transfers such as stored value cards. It brings together a wide cross-section of Section members with a professional or personal interest in these issues. The ECP committee considers how issues of security, authentication, privacy, etc. might affect the legal framework for new value transfer mechanisms, and provides assistance to legislative drafters and other groups.

#### **E-Discovery and Digital Evidence**

Nearly all information created by public and private organizations, and even by individuals, is now digitally generated, and that information is increasingly relied upon for use as evidence in both civil and criminal litigation. The EDDE Committee seeks to bring together the leading thinkers and practitioners in the area of e-discovery: jurists, litigators, policy-makers, technology experts, and business leaders, to work collaboratively with participants from related disciplines on projects designed to bridge the gap between technology and law in a way that will foster better client representation -- both prior to as well as during litigation.

Focusing on many critical issues that have largely been overlooked or not well understood since the 2006 amendments to the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure helped open the floodgates for the discovery of digital evidence, the Committee will work to foster and promote increased legal, judicial and enterprise understanding of the implications of technology on the legal process, and ultimately to develop solutions to many of the complex and challenging e-discovery problems facing the legal community.

#### **E-Filing**

The Electronic Filing Committee considers the improved efficiencies and privacy implications occasioned by the use of electronic processes to enable information transfers between private persons or entities and public repositories, whether they are conducted to facilitate official decision-making, to establish personal jurisdiction over corporations and registered agents, or to effectuate significant commercial and private transactions. The current focus of the committee is upon court and administrative filings in state and federal proceedings, electronic voting, authentication and identification of persons and official roles, including electronic notarizations of electronic documents, and tamper-evident protective seals to protect official electronic data from unauthorized modifications. Articulation of best technology practices can assist in a review and meaningful revision of official policies, statutes and rules, and the development of interoperable standards to achieve compatibility in technology solutions across jurisdictional boundaries.

#### **E-Privacy Law**

The ABA E-Privacy Law Committee is a forum for sharing information concerning cutting-edge legal developments with respect to information privacy, both domestically and globally. It provides opportunities for networking with colleagues in the same field, discussing a wide range of privacy issues, commenting on developing practices and guidelines regarding privacy, participating in the development of publications, taking positions on policy issues. The Committee features a listserv, offers periodic meetings, teleconferences and publications.

#### **Information Security**

This Committee is comprised of a diverse group of lawyers, security experts, technologists, auditors and other professionals, whose focus includes the examination and analysis of legal, business, and technical aspects of securing the confidentiality, integrity and availability of information.

The ISC has been the focal point of diverse secure electronic commerce law initiatives since 1992, and its body of published work includes globally influential documents relating to electronic authentication, digital signatures, and public key infrastructures. The ISC's list serve is recognized

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as a leading on-line forum for the robust debate on the spectrum of views from its members and other SMEs on these emerging issues of law and policy in the network infrastructure security arena.

### **Internet Relationships and Cloud Computing**

The Internet Relationships and Cloud Computing Committee addresses (i) web-based communities, [social-networking](#), and [blogs](#) on the Internet; and (ii) cloud computing, the newest paradigm to virtualize and distribute interoperable, collaborative [information services](#) on the Internet.

The Committee will develop expertise around and be at the very forefront of issues within its scope and focus. The Committee's objectives will benefit from collaboration with other Committees of SciTech as well as committees from other Sections of the ABA.

### **Latin America E-Commerce**

The Committee was established with the purpose to analyze e-commerce laws in the various countries of Latin America. Attorneys have an opportunity to engage in an analysis intended to understand how Latin American countries approach some interesting issues (i.e., privacy: ISPs' liability and safe harbors; e-contracts, e-documents; e-signatures; etc.) and at the same time to develop a database of legal resources on e-commerce. Such analysis should also be the basis to develop a common framework to harmonize e-commerce laws taking into consideration the U.S. Experience and expertise in these areas.

### **Open Source Software**

This committee identifies and analyzes the legal issues raised by commercial development and distribution of products using software and tools licensed under an Open Source model. In particular, the committee serves as a neutral forum for discussion and interpretation of many of the principal variations in open source licenses and potential legal effects of attempting to enforce the terms of these licenses. The Committee also concentrates on producing written resource materials to remedy a notable lack of existing authoritative resources discussing legal issues unique to open source software projects.

### **Privacy and Computer Crime**

This committee focuses on privacy, cybercrime and cyber security issues. Its work is international in scope. The committee takes a multidisciplinary approach to a broad range of issues and participants in project work including attorneys, technical experts, academia, government personnel, non-profit organizations, and representatives from industry and standards bodies around the globe. The committee encourages public-private cooperation in its work and has personnel from many participating organizations working on its projects. The Committee worked with participants from over 15 countries to produce the *ITU Toolkit for Cybercrime Legislation* which is intended to serve as sample legislation for countries around to globe and promote a harmonized global framework for cybercrime. The committee also has authored four books: the *International Guide to Combating Cybercrime* (2003), the *International Guide to Cyber Security* (2004), the *International Guide to Privacy* (2004), and the *Roadmap to an Enterprise Security Program* (2005). These publications are available at no charge to persons in developing countries. The *International Guide to Combating Cybercrime* is being updated and will be released in early 2011. Updates on the Privacy and Cyber Security books are scheduled for 2011. The committee has held numerous continuing legal education and outreach programs regarding the nexus between privacy, security, and cybercrime and the development of enterprise security programs that integrate technical, legal, managerial, and organizational considerations surrounding these three issues. The Committee interacts with leading associations, academia, government entities, and non-profit organizations to promote sound principles and best practices toward privacy, security, and cybercrime.

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### **Technical Standardization**

This committee seeks to improve the development of solutions to policy issues having a mixture of legal and technical factors. As we encounter situations involving a high degree of interaction between people, institutions and technology more frequently, proposed and achieved solutions increasingly rely on technical standards in addition to or as a substitute for legal standards or regulation. The committee will develop principles and practical guides towards better solutions generally. These may include policy approaches to finding the right balance or changes in the law applicable to standards development and use to support more effective solutions.

### **Telecommunications and Mass Media**

This committee is responsible for Section's substantive coverage of the entire range of legal issues involving domestic and international telecommunications, information services, and mass media. It is responsible for reports on new developments, the development of representative educational and professional programs, and the preparation of authoritative papers, monographs and other educational material.

### **Virtual Worlds and Multi-User Online Games**

The Virtual Worlds and Multi-User Online Games Committee ("VWMOG Committee") of the Section of Science and Technology Law of the ABA will focus on the legal issues raised by the existence of virtual worlds and massively multiplayer on-line role playing games (MMO games). Social scientists have been quick to recognize the value of virtual worlds as fertile ground for research and experimentation. In addition to their academic value, MMO games and virtual worlds are also rapidly becoming big business. Between virtual worlds and MMO games, a real world market of nearly a billion dollars annually has evolved for the trading of virtual assets. The Committee will also identify and consider issues, as yet unknown, that arise in the future.

## **LIFE & PHYSICAL SCIENCES DIVISION**

### **Animal Research**

This committee works to educate attorneys and others regarding the use of and legal protections for animals in biomedical research and the benefits for humans and animals that biomedical research affords. The committee provides a source of expertise in this area.

### **Behavioral Sciences**

An emerging emphasis will explore possible contributions of behavioral economics to legal and policy issues arising from the ongoing transformation of the global economy.

### **Biotechnology Law**

Biotechnology is emerging as the dominant technology of the 21st century, whether measured by the number of U.S. patents filed, the amount of U.S. venture capital raised, or just the sheer potential of biotech to change human life as we know it. We are an interdisciplinary group of attorneys. We are united by an intense interest in the industry sector we serve; a demonstrated commitment to stay abreast of developments that have legal ramifications for this sector; and, despite our Committee's growing numbers, a sense of camaraderie as fellow pioneers. Based on the minute-to-minute developments in this dynamic industry sector, most of our Committee's current work focuses on education and information exchange across our membership. Another critical aspect of our Committee's work involves our analysis of cutting-edge public policy issues involving biotechnology and bioethics. On matters within this Committee's ambit, we form ad hoc subcommittees to analyze and recommend for or against resolutions before the ABA House of Delegates.

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### **Nanotechnology Law**

Nanotechnology is at the convergence of multiple fields of science, including biology, physics, chemistry, materials science, computer science, mechanical engineering and electrical engineering. A variety of tools are being invented to allow nanoscale manufacturing. The Nanotechnology committee will explore the novel legal issues associated with nanotechnology research and development, distribution, licensing, and intellectual property protection. What kinds of patents are possible? What licensing structures are used? The committee will attempt to understand the potential dangers of this technology, and create a platform for discussions between scientists, lawyers and legislators about the ethical implications of some discoveries.

### **Public Health, Environmental Law and Preparedness**

The committee identifies cutting-edge legal issues arising from the physical, life, and environmental sciences. In particular, we focus on emerging trends, research, and major legislative changes that will impact public health; health systems; food safety systems; environment; and the legal infrastructure of the oversight and compliance networks in each of these areas. We also analyze the practical and legal interactions among these areas, and with technological advances.

### **The Rights and Responsibilities of Scientists**

This Committee serves as a primary advocacy resource for those interested in the legal representation, professional autonomy, and regulatory obligations of researchers, teachers, and practitioners in all areas of scientific endeavor.

### **Scientific Evidence**

This committee addresses the legal and evidentiary issues arising from the use of scientific evidence and experts.

## **INTERDISCIPLINARY DIVISION**

### **Artificial Intelligence and Robotics**

Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Robotics are no longer topics of the distant future. AI software now is used in businesses from "high-frequency" stock trading to discovering new breakthrough pharmaceuticals. Our military flies drone planes like the Predator; you can buy a Lexus that will parallel park for you or a Roomba to vacuum your floors. The Committee addresses the legal issues that are and will arise from such technologies as well as ways in which these technologies are enhancing the field of law.

### **Cleantech and Climate Change**

The Clean Technology and Climate Change Committee (CTC3) raises awareness to law, policy, science, and technology issues related to climate change; strengthens the capacity for effective legal, technical and market-based responses to mitigate greenhouse gases, ease adaptation, drive innovation, assure compliance, and preserve environmental integrity; and, as appropriate, assists with the development and implementation of domestic and international laws. CTC3 draws upon the expertise of public and private sector members from a wide range of practice areas and coordinates with other committees within the ABA Section on Science and Technology Law and in other Sections.

### **Future of Evidence**

This committee will explore the evidentiary issues arising in the future, from the rules of electronic discovery to the introduction of new forms of forensic evidence. We will investigate the latest technological and scientific issues, and the impact on tomorrow's courtroom. A book surveying these issues will be released in late 2010 or early 2011.

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### **Healthcare Technology**

The Healthcare Technology Committee ("HTC")'s mission is to: 1) raise awareness concerning the legal, science, technology and policy issues relating to the continually evolving healthcare technology in light of the current legislative focus on large-scale reform of the delivery and payment models for healthcare products and services; 2) draw upon the extensive and diverse knowledge and expertise of public and private sector members from a wide range of practice areas that touch upon healthcare technology and coordinate with other committees within the Section on Science and Technology Law and in other ABA Sections to take advantage of synergies and common interests relevant to this industry; 3) provide a forum for the exchange and sharing of best practices, knowledge and expertise pertinent to this industry; and 4) promote better understanding, thought leadership and proposed policy-making on a wide spectrum of complex and emerging issues arising in healthcare technology, including the role of information technology in healthcare reform and achievement of personalized medicine; the use, mining and transformation of data, cloud computing, remote hosted services and health information exchanges and the related data privacy and security issues; interoperability and standards; and government initiatives impacting this industry.

### **Homeland Security**

The committee on Homeland Security focuses on legal and policy issues related to the role of science and technology in the nation's homeland security efforts. The committee tackles issues surrounding the development and utilization of innovative and emerging technologies as solutions for securing the homeland, and related legislation and scientific and technological resources for protecting the homeland.

### **Museum Law**

The Museum Law Committee focuses on emerging science and technology law issues relating to museums of all types and also the art world. We welcome all Section members with an interest in these areas, and particularly invite the participation of law student and young lawyer Section members who would like to be involved in projects that bring together the worlds of museums, art, technology and the law. We anticipate that this committee will actively work on projects of interest not only to its members, but to the broader community of museum professionals and supporters.