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Venable attorneys produce periodic alerts and newsletters covering a variety of topics and practice areas. For your convenience, we have assembled below a collection of the latest alerts and newsletters from October 2014.

*U.S. News – Best Lawyers*® ranked Venable a National Tier 1 firm for Mergers & Acquisitions Law "Best Law Firms" for 2015. Overall, Venable was ranked in 98 categories at the national and metropolitan levels including a record 18 Tier 1 National rankings.



## Articles

### Apps Apps Everywhere: 5 Essential Legal Considerations for Companies Developing a Mobile App

Because mobile apps are essentially just a specific type of software, app development presents many of the same challenges involved in a traditional software development project. However, write Venable attorneys [Armand J. \(A.J.\) Zottola](#) and [Morgan E. Brubaker](#), there are some pronounced or unique intellectual property, ownership, privacy, data security, and advertising considerations that a company should keep in mind when developing a mobile app.

[Click here to learn more.](#)

### Summer/Fall 2014 Federal Copyright and Trade Secret Legislation Update

The 113th Congress has continued to devote effort to establishing or amending certain federal statutes related to the protection, enforcement, and exploitation of trade secrets or copyrights. If signed into law, write Venable attorneys [Armand J. \(A.J.\) Zottola](#) and [Robert F. Parr](#), these bills would have important implications for a wide range of interested parties, including songwriters, certain performing artists, authors of visual works, entertainment industry or content right stakeholders, and any business intent on exerting greater control over its trade secrets.

[Click here to learn about the bills making their way through Congress.](#)

### A Marketplace for Ideas: 5 Things Companies Should Know About the New IP Financial Exchange

The IP Exchange will facilitate non-exclusive licensing and trading of IP assets, write Venable attorneys [Armand J. \(A.J.\) Zottola](#) and [Morgan E. Brubaker](#). The IP Exchange was founded by a group of organizations ranging from some of the world's top tech companies to universities, banks, and laboratories to provide a more uniform way for companies to monetize IP assets and encourage innovation.

[Click here to learn the five basic things every company should know about this new market-based](#)

[approach to licensing IP.](#)

## Labor Pains: Ebola at Work

One of your employees (we'll call him "Don") visits relatives in a West African country that is a "hotspot" for the deadly Ebola outbreak. When Don returns to work, you are concerned that he unknowingly may have been exposed to the Ebola virus and could infect co-workers and customers. As a result, you want to ban Don from your premises for the next 21 days, which, writes Venable attorney [Todd J. Horn](#), is considered the maximum incubation period for the Ebola virus. Does that create the risk that Don will sue you under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), which prohibits employers from discriminating against individuals with disabilities? On the other hand, if you permit Don to return to work, do you risk lawsuits from co-workers, customers, or others with whom he comes in contact?

[Click here to find out what you should consider when evaluating your course of action.](#)

## DOJ Letter on Cybersecurity Offers Guidance for Association-Sponsored Information Exchanges

The US Department of Justice recently issued a business review letter advising CyberPoint International LLC that its True Security Through Anonymous Reporting (TruSTAR) cyber intelligence data-sharing program does not raise antitrust concerns. Although focused on the company's cybersecurity service, write Venable attorneys [Andrew E. Bigart](#) and [Jeffrey S. Tenenbaum](#), the DOJ letter provides a helpful reminder to trade and professional associations of the need to be cognizant of and review any proposed information exchange or benchmarking program for potential antitrust risk.

[Click here to learn recommended best practices for any association interested in managing a similar program.](#)

## Decoding Export Controls: Does the Latest BIS Settlement Signal a Trend in Increased Enforcement Actions Involving Encryption?

The US Department of Commerce's Bureau of Industry and Security recently announced that Intel Corporation subsidiary Wind River Systems Inc. agreed to pay a **\$750,000 civil penalty**, write Venable attorneys [Lindsay B. Meyer](#), [Carrie A. Kroll](#), and [Matthew R. Rabinowitz](#). Wind River was accused of selling encryption operating software products to foreign government end users and to organizations identified on the BIS Entity List without required Department of Commerce licenses.

[Click here to see how BIS is demonstrating heightened enforcement efforts, with a focus on sensitive technologies.](#)

## The [Trade] Secret Is Out: What all Government Contractors Need to Know about Proposal Information and the Uniform Trade Secrets Act

In a time of shrinking budgets and contracting opportunities, write Venable attorneys [Douglas C. Proxmire](#) and [Elizabeth A. Buehler](#), government contractors should be aware that the information compiled in their proposals has grown increasingly more valuable. Fortunately, the Uniform Trade Secrets Act is a tool contractors can use to protect their trade secrets.

[Click here to learn which basic protections contractors should employ.](#)

## CFPB Makes Final Modifications to Mortgage Rules

The Consumer Financial Protection Bureau recently issued changes to mortgage rules to "ensure access to credit." The announcement finalized adjustments proposed in April 2014, write Venable attorneys [Allyson B. Baker](#) and [Robert L. Hartwell](#).

[Click here to read about three general changes to the mortgage rules.](#)

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## Upcoming Events

### **Cybersecurity and the Road Ahead - Webinar**

Thursday, November 6, 2014 | 1:00 - 2:00 p.m. ET

Panelists will discuss emerging issues ranging from the security implications of new technologies, including the "Internet of Things," to boardroom involvement in managing potential cyber risk and liability. The panel will also discuss new tools and services available to companies to identify, manage, and adopt, plus best practices to mitigate cyber threats and the legal exposure associated with them. CLE credits will be offered in New York, New Jersey, California, Illinois, and Florida.

[Click here to learn more and register.](#)

### **The Battle for the Senate: What Impact Will the Election Have on Key Policy Issues in the Next Congress - New York, NY**

Tuesday, November 11, 2014 | 4:00 - 5:00 p.m. ET

Join Venable partners [The Honorable Bart Stupak](#), [Andrew Olmem](#), [William R. Nordwind](#), and [David L. Strickland](#) for a post-election briefing as we discuss the mid-term elections and the possible ramifications of the results.

[Click here to learn more and register.](#)

### **Winning Federal Business in Today's Federal Procurement Environment - Washington, DC**

Wednesday, November 12, 2014 | 8:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. ET

[Robert A. Burton](#) will speak at "Winning Federal Business in Today's Federal Procurement Environment," a small business seminar sponsored by Venable LLP, Professional Capture Management Forum, and Acquisition Management Consulting. This 4-hour seminar is especially designed for small business owners/senior executives who manage a company's business development function.

[Click here to learn more and register.](#)

### **Enhancing the Nonprofit Governance Model: Legal Pitfalls and Best Practices - Washington, DC and Webinar**

Wednesday, November 19, 2014 | 12:00 - 2:00 p.m. ET

Our experienced panelists will discuss approaches for working with volunteers effectively by establishing a framework of clear expectations, transparent information sharing, professional respect, and rigorous standards of integrity. We also will discuss how to work with difficult boards and, more importantly, how to educate boards and develop relationships with directors to help avoid future problems.

[Click here to learn more and register.](#)

### **Strategic Intellectual Property Management for Funds and Portfolio Companies - Webinar**

Wednesday, November 19, 2014 | 1:00 - 2:00 p.m. ET

As the private equity community matures, it is increasingly important to position your fund carefully for both fundraising and deal sourcing efforts. This challenge is exacerbated by many funds with similar names. Venable's [Intellectual Property](#) and [Corporate](#) attorneys work with our fund clients to build the value of funds and portfolio companies through strategic brand building. Please join us for an in-depth discussion of issues relevant to funds in this highly competitive, rapidly evolving landscape.

[Click here to learn more and register.](#)

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