

IT Legal Issues

Date: July 16, 2003

Location: Dominion Resources, Richmond, VA

Synopsis:

IT managers are increasingly being confronted with a variety of legal issues, including contracts, intellectual property rights, and privacy. This CMIT program will review contemporary legal issues related to IT within the framework of a roundtable discussion. Our keynote speaker, John Farmer, will begin by focusing on contemporary legal issues pertaining to outsourcing relationships including special issues raised by using overseas outsourcers. Following Mr. Farmer's presentation, we will open the floor to a roundtable discussion on the topic.

Agenda

7:30 - 8:00	Registration and Continental Breakfast
8:00 - 8:30	John B. Farmer, Founder, Leading-Edge Law Group, PLC
8:30 - 10:00	Roundtable Discussion

Speakers:

John B. Farmer

John wears two hats - columnist and lawyer. He writes a monthly column, Leading-Edge Law, for the Richmond Times-Dispatch on breaking legal issues in the e-commerce, intellectual property and high-tech fields.

When wearing his lawyer hat, John devotes his practice entirely to intellectual property, e-commerce and other high-tech issues. He frequently works with both start-ups and existing businesses to build or upgrade e-commerce strategies, and to identify, form and protect intellectual property.

In these subject matters, John's practice spans both corporate matters and litigation. He has represented clients in numerous cases in those fields in federal court and in the Trademark Trial and Appeal Board. These cases have concerned Internet connectivity, Web domain name cybersquatting, copyright infringement, copyright abuse, trademark and service mark infringement, trade secret misappropriation, unfair competition, ERP software implementations and software license breaches.

John is a member of the Advisory Committee on Intellectual Property Issues to the Virginia General Assembly's Joint Commission on Technology and Science. John is the immediate past president of the Greater Richmond Intellectual Property Law Association. He also is a member of and vice chair of the Board of Governors of the Intellectual Property Section of the Virginia State Bar.

In its most recent ratings, Richmond Magazine listed John as one of the top intellectual property lawyers in Central Virginia, based upon a poll of area lawyers. Virginia Business magazine also listed John as one of the top information technology and intellectual property lawyers in Virginia in its most recent ratings, also based upon a survey of lawyers. Virginia Business magazine has conducted this survey annually for the past three years; John is one of only four attorneys to make the list in each those three years.

John is frequently called upon to teach other lawyers in the areas of intellectual property and e-commerce. He has spoken frequently for Virginia CLE (the continuing legal education arm of the Virginia State Bar) and in programs sponsored by the Virginia State Bar itself. He has spoken to the plenary session of the annual meeting of the American Intellectual Property Law Association. John graduated from the University of Virginia in 1985 and its School of Law in 1988.