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## Suzanne Konrad Discusses Challenges in Follow-On Innovation at IPWatchdog Live

The Spencer Fane Washington D.C. office was pleased to sponsor the 6th Annual IPWatchdog LIVE conference on March 22-24 in Arlington, Virginia. Attorney [Suzanne Konrad](#) spoke at the event, with [Lawrence Drucker](#) and [Daniel Hwang](#) also attending.

Held at the Renaissance Arlington Capital View Hotel, IPWatchdog Live brought industry-leading intellectual property thought leaders together for thoughtful programming and networking opportunities, with Spencer Fane sponsoring a 30-minute networking break on March 24. In addition, Suzanne joined the panel, When Obviousness Isn't Obvious: How 103 Undermines Follow-On Innovation. She and her fellow speakers examined how modern obviousness analysis under 35 U.S.C. § 103 causes systemic patentability issues by discounting real-world development challenges. The panel also discussed how the current obviousness standard is too subjective and unpredictable, thereby causing an increased investment risk in technology. The discussion focused on life sciences, batteries, and other sectors where follow-on innovation drives therapeutic advancement, product refinement, and market competition.

A registered attorney with the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Suzanne Konrad focuses her practice at Spencer Fane on patent prosecution and litigation, helping clients create thoughtful and effective strategies to efficiently protect and maximize the value of marketable products and services. She applies her technical training and professional background in chemical engineering to assist clients in securing and defending intellectual property rights in highly sophisticated areas of business.

Learn more about this year's IPWatchdog LIVE [here](#).