

Testimony of Peter-Anthony Pappas
Director of Intellectual Property Policy
To United States Senator Thom Tillis and the Senate Committee on the Judiciary
Before the United States Senate Committee on Finance
Hearing on the Nomination to the United States International Trade Commission
June 25, 2026

Chairman Crapo, Ranking Member Wyden, and Members of the Committee, as the third generation of my family to pursue public service it is a great honor to appear before you today. I want to thank the Committee for considering my nomination to the United States International Trade Commission and to President Trump, Senator Tillis, and Ambassador Greer for their steadfast leadership and for placing their confidence in me.

Joining me today are my girlfriend, close friends, and colleagues. Unfortunately, my family in NJ could not be here but I know that they send their prayers and well-wishes. Without my family – particularly my parents and my late maternal grandparents – and all others close to me, I simply would not be sitting before you. As I have said many times before and will again, success is rarely, if ever, achieved alone – it is the result of team effort.

Our country is unlike any other. Article I, Section 8, Clause 8, of the U.S. Constitution grants Congress the enumerated power “*To promote the progress of science and useful arts, by securing for limited times to authors and inventors the exclusive right to their respective writings and discoveries.*” Congress has acted under that power from the earliest days of our great nation and this has led to American leadership in every innovative field. How many other countries had the foresight to embed intellectual property into their very founding? America has always set the global bar in terms of IP rights and this must continue now and well into the future.

Strong, clear, reliable, and predictable IP rights drive investments to innovative technologies and these rights encourage the creation of content that the world consumes. Innovation and creativity are critical to the economic and global competitiveness of the U.S. and to its national security. The U.S. must ensure that strong, clear, reliable, and predictable IP rights remain front and center – for inventors and creators large and small – as without these rights there would be no domestic industry to protect.

The ITC is an independent, neutral, and fact-based agency that investigates and makes determinations in proceedings involving imports claimed to injure a domestic industry or that violate U.S. IP rights. The ITC also provides independent analysis and information on tariffs, trade and competitiveness, and maintains the U.S. tariff schedule. The many roles of the ITC provide a vital means by which to efficiently and effectively protect American industry from foreign bad actors and for ensuring that American IP rights are enforced.

If confirmed, I look forward to working with this Committee and the Congress-at-large, President Trump and the Administration-at-large, each one of my fellow Commissioners, and all other stakeholders to lead the ITC into an even stronger and more prosperous future.

Thank you.