



Published on 28 October 2016 by **Thomas Caveng**, Legal Translator / Marketing Director

[t.caveng@soulier-avocats.com](mailto:t.caveng@soulier-avocats.com)

Tel.: + 33 (0)4 72 82 20 80

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# FTC Releases Report on Patent Assertion Entities, Calls for Reforms to Reduce Nuisance Patent Lawsuits



**Jurisdictions:** United States of America

**Authors:** Kay Lynn Brumbaugh, John H. McDowell, Jr., Susan A. Smith, John R. Seward and Sushila Chanana

**Law firm:** [Andrews Kurth](#)

**Subject:**

The U.S. Federal Trade Commission issued its much anticipated study on patent assertion entities (“PAEs”) on October 6, 2016. The report, entitled *Patent Assertion Entity Activity: an FTC Study*, defines a PAE as “a firm that primarily acquires patents and seeks to generate revenue by asserting them against accused infringers.” The report highlights the business practices of PAEs (based on non-public data from 2009 to 2014) and includes recommendations for patent litigation reform.



FTC Chairwoman Edith Ramirez praised the report for providing “*an empirical foundation for ongoing policy discussions,*” and said that the report’s recommendations “*are designed to balance the needs of patent holders with the goal of reducing nuisance litigation.*”

[Read the contribution](#)

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