



CRA Announcement Intellectual Property

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CRA consultants contribute chapters to 2015 edition of the *Litigation Services Handbook: The Role of the Financial Expert*

Ben Sheppard and Jeffery Stec, vice presidents in CRA's Intellectual Property Practice have written new chapters for the *Litigation Services Handbook 2015 Cumulative Supplement: The Role of the Financial Expert*, published by Wiley. Sheppard's chapter is entitled "Royalty Audits and Contract Compliance Investigations." Stec and coauthor Paul J. Lavrakas wrote a chapter entitled "Survey Research in Litigation."

Sheppard's chapter is based on his experience with over 200 contract compliance investigations performed across the world. In the chapter he presents a comprehensive listing of best practices for the planning, fieldwork, and reporting of these engagements. In addition, this chapter provides examples of procedures and other considerations to assess whether the extent of revenue, expenditures and other deductions were properly reported, according to the respective agreement.

Sheppard notes to the extent that litigation becomes necessary to resolve claims stemming from such an investigation, how that investigation was performed, and how the resulting claims were constructed, will likely become a focal point of that litigation. As such, the financial experts and counsel on both sides of such a dispute will benefit from the best practices shared within this chapter.

Dr. Stec's chapter presents a comprehensive explanation of surveys and the scientific method of conducting them in a litigation context. It introduces the elements that financial and economic experts should consider when evaluating the reliability and validity of a survey. The authors provide information on how to use survey information correctly through the course of the expert's work and discuss the Total Survey Error framework, an approach to evaluate a survey's reliability and validity. Financial and economic experts use surveys to address litigation-related issues in antitrust, intellectual property, and false advertising cases. Therefore, understanding survey methods and the appropriate use of data is an important aspect of litigation.

Dr. Stec is an expert in the application of economic, financial, statistical, and survey research theory to the collection and analysis of data to evaluate the economic impact of decisions made by

consumers and firms. Dr. Stec has created and critically evaluated surveys in the context of antitrust and intellectual property engagements. He has developed complex sample designs, designed survey questionnaires, and collected and analyzed survey data, including the derivation of complex variance estimates using simulation methods. Dr. Stec has also consulted on best survey practices for the design, collection, and analysis of survey data.

For more information about the book, click [here](#).

For information about either chapter, contact the authors.

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