

People in the News
Intellectual Property Law
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Latham Woos IP Litigator From Paul Hastings

By Julie Zeveloff

Latham & Watkins LLP has continued to ramp up its intellectual property litigation practice with the addition of Lawrence J. Gotts, formerly a partner at Paul Hastings Janofsky & Walker LLP.

Gotts, whose practice focuses on litigation and trial of intellectual property disputes, joins Latham's Washington office. He is the second patent litigator to arrive at Latham in recent months as part of the firm's effort to increase its IP litigation footprint.

Max Grant, who co-chairs the firm's global IP practice group, said the firm had recently committed to building out that practice group after seeing an increase in the number of competitor cases before the federal courts and the U.S. International Trade Commission.

"We believe patent litigation and intellectual property litigation, in general, are core to our litigation practice," he said. "When you are talking about competitor cases, those are cases that go right to the core of a company's business."

Gotts, who has extensive experience practicing before the federal courts, ITC and U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit, was a natural fit for Latham, Grant said.

"The number of people in this line of work who are truly world class is not all that big," Grant said. "Within Latham we put a lot of emphasis on teamwork, and really talented, high-quality lawyers who also work well with their peers are a rare commodity."



Max Grant
Latham & Watkins LLP

Gotts, who was approached by Grant months ago, said he particularly was drawn to Latham's trial-focused practice and the firm's collaborative environment.

“Latham’s global platform, resources and strength across the spectrum of intellectual property litigation are very attractive qualities for me,” Gotts said. “The firm’s geographic breadth, depth of talent in its intellectual property practice and large litigation group position the firm well to respond to the complex, cross-border patent disputes that arise as the business and legal marketplaces continue to globalize.”

Gotts has recently been involved in a number of high-profile patent trials. He successfully represented Honeywell International Inc. on appeal in a patent infringement suit against the federal government over a patent covering night vision goggles, and in June won a four-patent defense judgment on behalf of AU Optronics Corp. in a suit brought by LG Display Co. Ltd.

Gotts, who kicked off his career at the U.S. Patent and Trademark office, received his law degree from George Washington University and his undergraduate degree in mechanical engineering from the University of Maryland.

He arrives six months after former Howrey LLP partner Matthew Moore, another IP litigator wooed by the firm as part of its practice buildup.

Moore, who has deep experience representing Fortune 100 companies in high-profile patent infringement suits, received his law degree and bachelor's in electrical engineering from Syracuse University, a master's degree in systems engineering from the University of Pennsylvania and an LLM in Intellectual Property Law from George Washington University Law School.



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