

New York Law Journal

LITIGATION DEPARTMENTS OF THE YEAR FINALIST - INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY: Latham & Watkins



What are some of the department's most satisfying successes of the past year and why?

Our constellation of star trial lawyers had another exceptional year achieving headline-making, mission-critical wins for our clients. We were honored to win the first Litigators of the Week competition of 2025 for securing a complete jury trial victory for Sarepta Therapeutics in a patent dispute against Nippon Shinyaku, turning a \$290 million claim into a \$116 million victory. The patent at issue pertained to Sarepta's groundbreaking treatment for Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy (DMD), a genetic disorder that causes progressive muscle degeneration, primarily affecting young boys and is often considered a death sentence. The verdict protects and preserves access to this vital treatment for DMD patients and their families.

We regularly achieve exceptional trial results at the US International Trade Commission (ITC) as well, where we have represented both American and foreign companies as complainants and

respondents in numerous investigations and trials over patents and trade secrets. Notably, we achieved a trial victory for Netgear at the ITC in a patent dispute with TP-Link, which resulted in a favorable settlement that led to Netgear's stock price jumping more than 30% in one day.

A prospective client in crisis calls and asks why your team should be retained. What is your answer?

We are trial lawyers who draw on deep technical knowledge, industry insight, and experience litigating across venues to protect our clients' intellectual property, preserve value, and win precedent-setting victories in every type of dispute.

Our team of more than 100 IP litigators brings trial-tested experience to matters ranging from

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cutting-edge pharmaceutical and technology patent disputes to the copyright, trademark, and trade secrets cases that reshape industries. We can tailor our teams to match our specific capabilities with each client's specific needs — no matter the IP at issue. We can also address any combination of IP and related antitrust, contract, and unfair business practices claims.

Adversaries know we win the most complex and high-profile IP matters across the spectrum of district courts and the Federal Circuit, as well as at the ITC and Patent Trial and Appeal Board (PTAB). Our reputation often leads us to take over high-stakes IP cases mid-way, securing victories for clients who had faced long odds. Our appearance on the docket signals to opposing counsel that our client is willing to take the case to trial to win.

What traits do you respect most in opposing firms and lawyers?

Conviction, integrity, and creativity.

What is the firm doing to ensure that future generations of litigators are ready to take the helm?

We're extremely proactive in providing associates with substantive opportunities to develop first chair skills. Indeed, our outstanding results are often achieved with associates playing lead

roles, including arguing major motions in court, conducting key cross-examinations, and deposing critical witnesses in our most important cases, setting them apart from their counterparts on the opposing side.

We also provide a comprehensive array of training programs for IP associates of all years. Junior associates are welcomed to the firm with a sequence of introductory sessions to the different areas within our IP practice, conducted by some of the most experienced partners. As associates progress and become more entrenched in the practice, they partake in yearly trainings. These sessions are delivered by a mix of partners and senior associates, offering practical, hands-on lessons on the core aspects of IP law. Additionally, our IP associates participate in an oral argument boot camp, where they present and debate a mock summary judgment motion in front of a panel of senior IP partners. This event not only fosters team unity but also ensures that our associates are prepared for trial early on in their professional journey. Mid-level and senior associates also have the opportunity to participate in intensive trial academies where they practice direct and cross examinations of fact and expert witnesses, opening statements, and closing arguments and receive feedback from experienced trial lawyers.