

Another Stellar Batch of Litigator of the Week Runners-Up and Shout Outs

By Ross Todd

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► Shout out to lawyers at **Latham & Watkins** and Mayer Brown who got a rare “entire fairness” defense victory in Delaware’s Court of Chancery to stand up last week in an en banc decision from the state’s Supreme Court. The summary order upholds Vice Chancellor Lori Will’s decision from last year finding the \$875 million deal between financial services companies BGC Partners Inc. and Cantor Fitzgerald met the entire fairness standard. The **Latham** team representing Cantor Fitzgerald and CEO Howard Lutnick was led by partner **Eric Leon**, who argued the appeal, and associate **Nathan Taylor**, and included associates **Elizabeth Morris** and **Richard Frohlichstein**, as well as an appellate team led by partner **Melissa Arbus Sherry** that included associates **Michael Clemente** and **J.V. Langkilde**. The Mayer Brown team representing the three members of the special committee of independent directors of BGC Partners included partners Joe De Simone, Nicole Saharsky, who argued the appeal, and Michelle Annunziata, and associates Matthew Fenn, Minh Nguyen-Dang, Luc Mitchell, Thomas Halpern and Nathan Blevins.

► Shout out to a separate **Latham** team that got a securities class action against Virgin Galactic related to the company’s commercial space flight program trimmed to a single alleged misstatement: Richard Branson’s description of the company’s inaugural flight as “absolutely and utterly flawless” upon his return to earth. U.S. District Judge Allyne Ross in Brooklyn last week dismissed the remainder of the case. The **Latham** team representing Virgin Galactic includes partners **Michele Johnson**, **Kristin Murphy**, **Kevin McDonough** and **Colleen Smith**, as well as associates **Corey Calabrese**, **Ryan Walsh** and **Brittany Record**.