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Litigator of the Week Runners-Up and Shout-Outs

By Ross Todd September 12, 2025

Shout-out to lawyers at Latham & Watkins representing Apple and at Williams & Connolly representing Google, who got district court wins to stand up on appeal in a case accusing the companies of colluding to limit competition in the market for search engines. The Ninth Circuit last week upheld decisions routing the plaintiff's claims against Google to arbitration and dismissing claims against Apple. The appellate court agreed with the district court's finding that Apple's decision not to enter the search engine market likely involved "the actual and opportunity costs of developing a search engine [and] the difficulty of competing with existing search engines." Latham's Melissa Arbus Sherry argued the appeal for Apple, with a team that included partners Aaron Chiu, Sarah Ray associates Ben Harris and Lia Barrett. Williams & Connolly's Jonathan Schmidtlein argued for Google, with associate Kees Thompson joining him on the briefs.