



LATHAM & WATKINS LLP

Photo Illustration: David Evans/Bloomberg Law; Photo: Getty Images

Bloomberg Law

Latham's Own AI Servers Give Firm Best Options, Leaders Say

Sept. 11, 2026, 9:07 AM PDT

Eric Killelea, Houston Correspondent

Roy Strom, Reporter

Summary by Bloomberg AI

- Latham & Watkins has purchased powerful computing chips from Nvidia to fine-tune open-weight models and provide an extra layer of security as it pursues an artificial intelligence strategy.
- The firm is using the Nvidia servers to integrate its internal systems with AI capabilities and build unique tools that deliver its lawyers' expertise in new ways.
- Latham's investment in AI is intended to provide capabilities that outside providers do not offer, with the firm saying it is "actively looking" at adding Nvidia's newer generation systems.

Latham & Watkins has purchased powerful computing chips from Nvidia that it is using to fine-tune open-weight models and provide an extra layer of security as it pursues an artificial intelligence strategy that isn't limited to off-the-shelf tools.



Michael Rubin Latham & Watkins

Multiple leaders of Latham's AI strategy committee told Bloomberg Law the firm decided to develop its own Nvidia server infrastructure three years ago and has been purchasing the servers over that same time period.

The servers are now active in a third-party data center facility that only Latham employees can access. The firm has purchased "multiple" H200 GPUs and is "actively looking" at adding Nvidia's newer generation systems known as Blackwell and Vera Rubin, a spokesperson said.

Latham is experimenting with "fine-tuning" open-weight models [developed](#) by Nvidia, the Latham leaders said.



Amber Banks Latham & Watkins

“The ability to integrate open-source models with our own software in an ‘on-prem’ basis and then run those tools in an integrated way puts us in a class that other law firms can’t match,” said Michael Rubin, global chair of Latham’s artificial intelligence practice who chairs the firm’s internal AI strategy committee.

The firm declined to disclose the cost of the endeavor.

Latham’s competitive argument goes further than data security. The Nvidia chips help the firm integrate its other internal systems with AI capabilities, said Rene Mendoza, Latham’s chief information officer. And lawyers on the AI committee say the investment helps them build unique tools that deliver their years of expertise in new ways.

The firm says its roster of technology employees has grown to 900, with about 100 of those specifically dedicated to AI.

“No AI company, no technology company will ever be able to replicate what we’re doing because they don’t have our lawyers,” said Amber Banks, an M&A and private equity partner and member of Latham’s AI strategy committee.

The unveiling of Latham’s Nvidia chips comes as firms are in a race to deploy artificial intelligence even as its impact on their business model remains unclear. Firms are using tools provided by legal AI firms including Harvey and Legora while frontier AI developers OpenAI and Anthropic have taken aim at building their own legal-specific tools.

Latham uses all those tools and has attorney-client relationships with many of the companies that develop them.

“Nobody can predict where any of this is going, so we have the best optionality,” Mendoza said.

Latham likely isn’t alone in pursuing private AI hardware.

Kirkland & Ellis, which Bloomberg Law reported in May has committed \$500 million to build its own AI platform, posted job listings seeking AI infrastructure directors to develop and manage what the listings describe as “on-premise Graphics Processing Unit (GPU) clusters.”

The language suggests Kirkland may already own AI hardware. Kirkland has declined on multiple occasions to comment on whether it has purchased GPU servers. The firm did not respond to a request for comment for this article.

Latham has advised Harvey on legal matters, including the company’s latest \$550 million funding round, which this week valued the company at \$15.5 billion. Nvidia is also a major Latham client. The firm [represented the company](#) last month on a massive data center campus to be built in Ohio and leased by OpenAI.

The firm’s buildout of Nvidia servers is not intended to lessen its reliance on Harvey, Rubin said. Latham said saving on token costs “is a factor” in its use of open-weight models, though that is not driving its decisions.

“This provides us capabilities that Harvey simply doesn’t offer,” Rubin said. “They’re in the cloud and this is on premise.”

Daryl Lim, the H. Laddie Montague Jr. Chair in Law at Penn State Dickinson Law, said the investment makes sense for a firm of Latham’s size but warned the math only works if the firm puts the servers to use. Buying, maintaining, and securing the systems is expensive and requires significant technical staff, he said. “If Latham can keep them busy on valuable work, the investment may be justified,” Lim said. “If not, outside providers make better commercial sense because they can spread those costs across many customers.”

The servers alone won’t deliver lasting advantage, Lim added. The real payoff comes if Latham uses the infrastructure to make its own legal work product and processes more useful across the firm. “That is where the competitive advantage is likely to lie,” he said.

Human Investment

Latham has been investing in AI engineers, lawyers with engineering backgrounds, and “innovation lawyers” who are embedded in practice groups to help develop new tools. It still is hiring for a range of open positions, including “innovation attorneys” and “AI services attorneys,” who will help roll out AI-enabled legal services.

“We are looking for people who can blend legal expertise, familiarity with law firms and client familiarity, with technical ability,” said Adam Ziegler, Latham’s director of artificial intelligence—legal innovation.

Even as firms lay out possibly tens of millions of dollars building new AI capabilities, some clients are already demanding it lessen the cost of legal services.

Clients argue that AI reduces the amount of human time spent on certain tasks, and those savings should be shared with them.

But Latham, [like its broader Big Law peers](#), has not seen a reduction in the number of hours lawyers are billing, Rubin said.

“We are still in very early days with this technology, so to predict in any sort of routine way or deterministic way what is the savings AI will bring to any given matter is very challenging to near impossible,” he said.

Ron Friedmann, a legal industry consultant, said Latham’s decision is reasonable but the outcome far from certain. “Owning and operating your own hardware makes sense in a world of uncertainty,” he said. “Is there a guarantee they’ll get paid back? No, but there’s no guarantee with anything anyone is doing right now.”

Rubin said it was difficult to predict how the cost of AI would grow in the future. He characterized Latham’s investment in AI services as “fairly agnostic to cost.”

“What I do know about Latham is that we are never going to stop investing in and making sure that we have the absolute best technology in front of our lawyers so they can do what they need to do to deliver the best client service,” he said.