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Litigator of the Week Runners-Up and Shout-Outs

By Ross Todd May 2, 2025

➤ Shout-out to a Latham & Watkins pro bono trial team led by Gabrielle LaHatte, who won a \$2.3 million verdict, including \$2 million in punitive damages, in what appears to be the first jury trial in the U.S. under the federal revenge porn statute, and one of the few under the Texas statute. The Latham team also includes Brett Sandford, Heather Haynes, Dan Muller, Diane Ghrist, Sean Gloth and Jeff Homrig.

➤ Shout-out to lawyers for the NCAA and major athletic conferences who knocked out claims brought on behalf of 16 former college basketball players, including former Kansas guard Mario Chalmers, related to using their name, image and likeness in advertisements and for other commercial purposes. U.S. District Judge Paul Engelmayer in Manhattan dismissed the case this week. The judge held that the plaintiffs, who all played in the period before the June 15, 2016, cutoff in the NCAA's *House* settlement, had claims that fell outside the four-year statute of limitations under the Sherman Act. The Wilkinson Stekloff team representing the NCAA included Rakesh Kilaru, Cali Arat, Daniel Epps and Matthew Skanchy.

Angela Zambrano, Benjamin Nagin, Natali Wyson and Chelsea Priest of Sidley Austin represented the Big 12 Conference. The team representing the Southeastern Conference included Michael Sommer of Wilson Sonsini Goodrich & Rosati and Kathryn Reilly, Galen Bellamy, Michael Krantz and Natalie West of Wheeler Trigg O'Donnell. The Atlantic Coast Conference was represented by **Christopher Yates**, **Aaron Chiu** and **Anna Rathbun** of **Latham & Watkins**. The Big Ten Conference was represented by Britt Miller, Daniel Fenske and Gina Del Tatto of Mayer Brown. The Big East Conference was represented by Scott Cooper and Kyle Casazza of Proskauer Rose. The Pac-12 Conference was represented by Whitty Somvichian, Ashley Corkery, Gregory Merchant and Mark Lambert of Cooley.