

Cooley Adds IP Pros From Pillsbury, MoFo To Calif. Offices

By Kevin Penton

Law360, New York (June 29, 2016, 2:12 PM ET) -- Cooley LLP has added an intellectual property attorney from Morrison & Foerster LLP who specializes in life sciences and a trademark and copyright litigator from Pillsbury Winthrop Shaw & Pittman LLP as partners in its California offices, the firm announced on Wednesday.

Mika Reiner Mayer will focus her practice on patent prosecutions and due diligence and on strategic portfolio management in the firm's Palo Alto office, and Bobby Ghajar will assist large entities with their copyright, trademark, trade dress, false advertising and right of publicity litigation needs in Los Angeles, according to the announcement.

Mayer has led hundreds of patent due diligence reviews, including multibillion-dollar acquisitions in the drug delivery, medical device and pharmaceutical fields, according to the firm. She also assists companies with their needs at other stages of a patent's life, including serving as prosecution counsel, managing portfolios and representing them in post-grant review proceedings and in patent litigation, according to the firm.

"Cooley's corporate platform is second to none — the synergy with my practice is undeniable," Mayer said in a statement. "The firm dominates the emerging company life sciences market, and I am excited to help solidify Cooley's position as the nation's leading life sciences patent team."

Ghajar has extensive experience in trademark and copyright litigation, including representing Facebook Inc.'s Oculus VR Inc. last year in a trademark suit initiated by a video hosting service called Oculu LLC. A judge held that the goods and services offered by the two companies were far too different for consumers to be confused by similar names. The suit received an honorable mention in Law360's list of the top trademark rulings of 2015.

"Cooley's trademark, copyright and advertising group is incredibly strong, with one of the busiest IP dockets in the country and advises not only the world's largest companies, but the next generation of exciting, emerging companies," Ghajar said in a statement. "I'm eager to contribute toward its continued global success."

Mayer received her undergraduate degree from the University of Arizona and her law degree from



Mika Reiner Mayer



Bobby Ghajar

Boston University School of Law. She is admitted to practice in California and before the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, according to the firm.

"This is a game changer for us — we have expanded our marquee life sciences patent practice in one of our largest strategic markets," said Barbara Kosacz, head of the firm's global life sciences practice, in a statement.

Ghajar received his undergraduate degree from the University of California, Los Angeles, and his law degree from Southwestern Law School. He is admitted to practice in the Sixth, Ninth, Eleventh and the Federal Circuits, the Northern, Southern, Eastern and Central Districts of California and the state of California, according to the firm.

"I'm thrilled that our thriving practice is growing further with the addition of Bobby, whose powerful skill sets will add a new dimension to our winning teams around the globe," said Mike Attanasio, chair of the firm's litigation department, in a statement.

Cooley has approximately 900 attorneys working out of 12 offices in the U.S., Europe and China, according to the firm.

--Additional reporting by Bill Donahue. Editing by Stephen Berg.

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