

Daily Journal

APRIL 22, 2015

The Leading Intellectual Property Attorneys in California 2015

The most compelling aspect of choosing the list of leading intellectual property attorneys in California is recognizing the diversity of their achievements, and their ability to stay on the cutting edge of new developments in patent, copyright and trademark law.

While based in the state, leading litigators travel the nation to try cases, whether it's in the Eastern District of Texas, the U.S. International Trade Commission, or a new U.S. Patent and Trademark Office proceeding to determine whether a patent is valid. A few litigators successfully argued or defended cases before the U.S. Supreme Court. Copyright attorneys were in the midst of battles between technology and content providers. Trademark lawyers fought to protect their clients.

The patent prosecutors and portfolio managers on the list represent medical device makers and technology companies, drafting and defending new patents, protecting trademarks and copyrights, while often handling IP aspects of major acquisitions.

The lawyers chosen for this year's list helped to advance technological innovation or transform the law while representing a range of clients that includes Hollywood studios, technology giants, aggressive startups, and the daughter of a screenwriter. The list demonstrates the impressive and diverse work done by California attorneys whose work advances the state's leadership in intellectual property law.

—The Editors

TOP LITIGATORS OF INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

Steven M. Strauss

FIRM:
Cooley LLP

CITY
San Diego

SPECIALTY
Patent



Strauss got a case dismissed for his client Qualcomm Inc. in which plaintiff Gabriel Technologies

Corp. was seeking over \$1 billion in damages. And then he successfully defended the victory before the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit in March 2014.

He methodically dismantled Gabriel's case. First, he got a number of claims dismissed at the pleadings stage, then won on summary judgment.

Qualcomm was also awarded \$12.4 million in attorney fees by U.S. District Judge Anthony J. Battaglia of the Southern District of California. *Gabriel Technologies Corp. v. Qualcomm Inc.*, 2013-1205 (Fed. Cir., filed March 18, 2014).

In another matter, Strauss defended Qualcomm, HTC Corp. and Motorola Mobility LLC in a trial before the International Trade Commission. Tela Innovations Inc. alleged Qualcomm's circuits infringed its patents "due to the

way Qualcomm designed its circuits," he said.

After a three-week trial, and one day before the judge was to issue his opinion, the parties settled.

"It was clear Tela's ultimate strategy was to make its way through everyone in the industry," Strauss said. "Tela alleged a serious claim and this resulted in a great resolution for the industry." *In the Matter of Certain Integrated Circuit Devices*, 337-TA-873, (International Trade Commission, filed Feb. 8, 2013).

Strauss has a wide-ranging practice that includes commercial and real estate litigation as well. In November, Strauss won a reversal of a \$100 million judgment against his client Santa Fe Pacific Pipeline Inc. before the 2nd District Court of Appeal.

— Hetert-Qebu Walters

