

## IP Hires: Fish & Richardson, Crowell & Moring, Gibson Dunn

By Amber McKinney

*Law360, New York (November 9, 2017, 3:54 PM EST)* -- In this week's intellectual property partners on the move, Fish & Richardson boosts its ranks with IP principal hires in Boston and Houston, Crowell & Moring welcomes a government contract attorney with IP experience, and Gibson Dunn adds a seasoned appellate litigator. Here are details on IP attorneys who have landed new jobs.

### 2 Seasoned IP Litigators Join Fish & Richardson

Fish & Richardson PC boosted its ranks recently by bringing on a pair of experienced intellectual property and patent trial attorneys as the two new principals of its litigation groups in the firm's Boston and Houston offices, according to a statement Tuesday.

Jayne Partridge, formerly a partner at Patterson & Sheridan LLP, was hired and named a principal in Fish & Richardson's Houston office litigation group in late October, and longtime patent lawyer and former McDermott Will & Emery LLP partner Brian Gaff joined the firm's litigation group in Boston as a principal this week.

Partridge earned her degree in mechanical engineering and worked as a petroleum engineer before launching her legal career more than 20 years ago. She first represented Exxon Mobil Corp. as an associate at Baker Botts LLP, switched to the energy company's in-house counsel team, but then left to start her own boutique firm before joining Norton Rose Fulbright in 2011 and then Patterson & Sheridan.

Although Partridge has tried intellectual property cases ranging from patent infringement to trade secrets in a multitude of technologies, including fiber optics and chemical processes, she told Law360 on Tuesday that often her main focus has been within the oil and gas industry, representing corporate petrochemical and oil field service clients in technologies such as fracturing fluids and downhole tools for producing.

It was "an opportunity you just don't turn down," Partridge said of getting an offer from the firm, which allowed her to stay in Houston, where she hopes to continue working within the oil and gas industry.



Jayne Partridge



Brian Gaff

Over on the East Coast, Gaff brings to the firm's Boston office more than 18 years of experience handling a broad range of high-stakes intellectual property and patent infringement disputes not only in federal district courts across the country but also in the Federal Circuit.

Gaff too comes from an engineering background, having worked as an electrical engineer for 15 years at The Charles Stark Draper Laboratory Inc., Siemens AG and The Hewlett-Packard Co. before joining the latter's litigation team and then moving on to Testa Hurwitz and Thibault LLP.

"Brian ... is an accomplished IP trial lawyer with deep technical experience in medical device, telecom, hardware and software technologies sectors, where Fish has a robust client base," litigation practice group leader Kurt Glitzenstein said. "He will be a tremendous asset to our firm and to our clients."

"I have had the pleasure of working with Fish attorneys on cases and have always admired both their trial skills and their professionalism," Gaff told Law360. "I feel right at home with this team of great trial lawyers who have amazing technical depth, and I'm excited to be moving my practice to Fish."

### **Crowell & Moring Adds Ex-Wiley Rein Gov't Contracts Atty**

Crowell & Moring LLP has hired a Wiley Rein LLP government contracts attorney with more than 15 years of experience representing aerospace, defense, professional services, health care and information technology companies in all aspects of federal government procurement, the firm recently announced.

Nicole J. Owren-Wiest is joining the firm's Washington, D.C., office as partner in its government contracts group, where she'll focus her practice on cost matters, data and intellectual property rights and investigations, the firm said in a statement Nov. 6. Owren-Wiest said she decided to move to Crowell & Moring because its government contracts group is among the most distinguished in the industry.



Nicole Owren-Wiest

"The firm provides a broad platform to serve clients and solve their most challenging issues," she said in a statement. "I am thrilled to be here and to be working with the firm's talented lawyers to serve existing clients and support new ones."

### **Gibson Dunn Adds Ex-Solicitor General Assistant in DC**

Gibson Dunn & Crutcher LLP has hired a former assistant to the U.S. solicitor general, who argued dozens of cases before the U.S. Supreme Court that related to securities fraud, intellectual property, employment, bankruptcy and corporate criminal liability, the firm announced.

In a Nov. 1 statement, Gibson Dunn said Nicole Saharsky is joining the firm as a partner in its Washington, D.C., office, where she'll serve as co-chair of the firm's appellate and constitutional law practice group. Saharsky told Law360 on Nov. 3 she was drawn to the firm because of its collegiality, its smart, sophisticated attorneys and its "incredibly deep, strong bench."



Nicole Saharsky

"That's what I was looking for, and that's what I think I've gotten," Saharsky said.

Saharsky served in the U.S. Department of Justice as an assistant to the solicitor general for 10 years. She represented the government on 29 cases before the Supreme Court. She also briefed 45 cases on

the merits and filed hundreds of briefs and motions, according to Gibson Dunn.

Saharsky said a perk of working for the Justice Department for so long was that it gave her the opportunity to tackle a variety of issues, including high-profile securities fraud and intellectual property and personal jurisdiction disputes. Those cases broadened her expertise beyond the criminal cases the government typically pursues, she said.

“But they’re all fun when you’re in the middle of doing them,” she said.

--Additional reporting by Steven Trader and Dorothy Atkins. Editing by Orlando Lorenzo.