

Crowell & Moring Nabs Winston & Strawn Competition Wiz

By **Stewart Bishop**

Law360, New York (March 29, 2012, 6:45 PM ET) -- Crowell & Moring LLP's antitrust group has landed a Winston & Strawn competition pro who will join the Orange County, Calif., office as a partner, the firm said Wednesday.

A 20-year veteran of complex civil litigation, John S. Gibson has taken on numerous class action, antitrust and unfair competition engagements and has achieved "game-changing results" for his clients, the firm says.

"Through his many successes in trial and appellate work, John has earned a reputation within the California tech community as a 'go-to' lawyer for resolving complex commercial and antitrust disputes," said Daniel A. Sasse, the antitrust group partner who heads the firm's Orange County office. "John bolsters our litigation and appellate team nationwide."

His practice also includes post-trial and appellate "rescue missions," like the case in which he killed 95 percent of the largest antitrust jury verdict in the U.S. after taking control of the suit after trial, according to the firm.

Gibson said he was thrilled to be joining the team at Crowell.

"Crowell & Moring has a premier antitrust practice with a deep bench, nationally and internationally, and I am excited about becoming a part of this entrepreneurial team," Gibson said. "The firm offers clients a wealth of knowledge, experience and championship teamwork. These factors ... create a strong platform to represent clients fiercely and intelligently in their most important legal matters."

He said he was drawn to the firms not only by its robust D.C.-based antitrust and regulatory practice but also by the firm's culture and its growing presence in California.

"The new action for antitrust law is going to be at the intersection of intellectual property and antitrust," Gibson said. "Crowell & Moring is established on the West Coast and is committed to growing at a time when demand for that practice is skyrocketing."

Innovation and demand for products in the high-tech sector comes with definite intellectual property issues, but are also laced with serious competition concerns, Gibson says.

“Typically, before the Internet, industries did not receive a lot of competition scrutiny until they were more seasoned,” Gibson said. “Now, these high-technology markets are becoming mature by antitrust standards much more quickly than we’re used to. That requires companies to think about the interplay between IP laws and competition laws.”

Gibson said he loves the antitrust practice due to the fact that the people involved share a common goal: defending the free enterprise system.

“Whether you’re a regulator or a representing a client who’s a player in the market, we both have the same goal, which is to protect the free enterprise system, which is driven by competition,” Gibson said.

In addition to his private practice, Gibson serves on the executive committee and board of directors of the Constitutional Rights Foundation. His pro bono wins include obtaining the first federal court order in the U.S. requiring a school district to accommodate a autistic student with a service dog.

Gibson holds a law degree from University of Michigan Law School, where he was a member of the Michigan Law Review, and a bachelor's degree from Harvard College, where he was a John Harvard Scholar. After law school, he clerked for the Honorable John Feikens, United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Michigan.

Crowell & Moring is an international firm with approximately 500 lawyers representing clients in litigation and arbitration, as well as regulatory and transactional matters. The firm has offices in Washington, D.C.; New York; Los Angeles; San Francisco; Orange County; Anchorage, Alaska; London; and Brussels.

--Editing by Kat Laskowski.

All Content © 2003-2012, Portfolio Media, Inc.