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America's Leading Litigation Firms and Attorneys

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THE DEFINITIVE GUIDE TO AMERICA'S LEADING LITIGATION FIRMS & ATTORNEYS

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2008



New York

Patterson Belknap Webb & Tyler houses almost 200 lawyers in its sole office in Manhattan, and was described by one competitor as “a low-profile firm with quality people and a great reputation.” Clients overwhelmingly agree, and are eager to sing the firm’s praises. One client explained that “one of the best things about Patterson Belknap is that it’s a very selective firm and maintains quality control, so the depth and strength of the teams is extraordinary.” Another client attested that “everyone at the firm is outstanding, we’ve won everything.”

Patterson Belknap is particularly renowned for its intellectual property and media and entertainment expertise, and represents clients such as ESPN, Island Def Jam Music Group and Sony BMG Music Entertainment in a range of these matters. Other main practice areas include white-collar crime and government investigations, and chair of the firm’s litigation department and white-collar defense and investigations group Paul Gardephe is representing the Associated Press (AP) in a closely watched ongoing matter regarding the 2005 arrest and detention by

US military officials of Iraqi AP photographer Bilal Hussein, despite the military’s failure to charge Bilal with a crime or present evidence against him. Gardephe traveled to Iraq to research the case in early 2007. Judge **Michael Mukasey** rejoined the firm in September 2006, after having served as Chief Judge of the US District Court for the Southern District of New York, and he and partner **Saul Shapiro** were characterized as being “wonderful and very smart.” Firm co-chair William “Bill” Cavanaugh was described as “a first-rate trial lawyer and a great strategist” by one client, and he focuses in antitrust, patent and general commercial litigation. He is representing Wells Fargo and achieved a substantial settlement for a loyal client of the firm, TAP Pharmaceuticals. Patent specialist Stuart Pollack was lauded by one client as “the brains behind the operation” in complex patent cases. Managing partner and co-chair of the firm, Robert “Bob” LoBue, was hailed by another client as “terrific, not just for litigation, but for avoiding it.” LoBue was also described by clients as being “first-rate and responsive” with “a clear sense of the difference between

legal and business issues and the ability to talk in matter-of-fact, plain English.” Clients also said that “he takes real world considerations into account” and “he just gets it.” Senior partner Gregory Diskant focuses on complex commercial, intellectual property and securities litigation, and one client commended him as having “a tremendous desire to be the best” and being “astounding in patent work,” adding that “he has an incredible resume, but he’s unassuming and takes in a lot of information.” Partner Steven Zalesin is active in intellectual property, false advertising and complex commercial matters, and in 2006 obtained a series of rulings in six states denying certification of putative classes of consumers who alleged that they had been deceived by his client’s advertisements.

Other recent cases include the firm’s more than six-year representation of Cendant in its litigation with Ernst & Young, a victory for Johnson & Johnson regarding its average wholesale price multidistrict litigation in Boston and a continuing reputation for defending some of the nation’s largest law firms against complex liability claims.