

# APPELLATE HOT LIST

a special report

“Common sense beats a footnote every time,” writes Paul Clement, when detailing the practice advice he’d give his younger self. “Focus on what’s right and true, not what’s clever and shrewd,” writes Don Verrilli. The stars of the appellate bar featured in this year’s special report practice what they preach. Over the past year, they won key matters before the U.S. Supreme Court and federal courts of appeal that tackled everything from religious freedom in mass transit advertising to jurisdictional issues involving the Clean Water Act to the music of the mighty Marvin Gaye. For more on their stories, “Keep on [reading.]”

—Lisa Helem



## JENNER & BLOCK

ing the reach of a major criminal tax provision in *Marinello v. United States*.

Three different lawyers argued each of these cases before the U.S. Supreme Court, receiving crucial support from an enormously talented team comprised of appellate lawyers and subject-matter practitioners working collaboratively across practices and offices to deliver excellence for our clients.

■ **HOW DID YOUR FIRM APPROACH APPELLATE SUCCESS OVER THE PAST YEAR?** Our appellate practice continues to thrive, and is in the midst of an unparalleled run of success. Five lawyers will have argued at least seven cases this term and last, a reflection of the group’s depth and ability to provide sophisticated analysis, briefing and argument.

■ **WHAT PRACTICE ADVICE WOULD YOU GIVE YOUR YOUNGER SELF?**

We often come to work with our own assumptions about how to succeed and win for a client. It is important to be open to new things. Diverse perspectives help us evolve and better serve the growing and varied needs of our clients.

Responses submitted by Jessica Ring Amunson, a partner at Jenner & Block.

■ **TELL US ABOUT YOUR TOP U.S. SUPREME COURT OR FEDERAL CIRCUIT COURT VICTORY OVER THE PAST YEAR AND HOW YOU AND YOUR TEAM ACHIEVED THE WIN.** Our lawyers took on—and won—cases that touch on issues critical to our clients’ businesses and at the center of the national discussion, from challenging the waiver of constitutional rights in guilty pleas in *Class v. United States* to defining the scope of the U.S. Constitution’s Contracts Clause in *Sveen v. Melin* to challeng-