

APPELLATE HOT LIST



A SPECIAL REPORT

When the stakes were high, the 20 law firms featured in this year's special report delivered—winning big in federal and state appeals courts across the country. They won landmark U.S. Supreme Court decisions on closely watched cases including those over affirmative action, patent infringement and a labor dispute. They also represented some of the most well-known companies in the land, among them Bank of America Corp., Chevron Corp. and the National Football League. These are their stories.

JENNER & BLOCK

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Jenner & Block



DIEGO M. RADZINSKI

PAUL SMITH

The “Block” in Jenner & Block’s firm name could easily be short for “blockbuster.” It was just that kind of standout run for its appellate lawyers before the U.S. Supreme Court since January 2015: Seven successful arguments, ranging widely from criminal law to copyright law to redistricting and employment law.

And that was just the Supreme Court.

In the first half of 2016, the appellate team scored four wins in the U.S. Court of Appeals for

the Federal Circuit in patent infringement challenges.

In April and May, Paul Smith, head of the firm’s Supreme Court and appellate practice, earned Supreme Court victories in *Harris v. Arizona Independent Redistricting Commission*, defending the commission’s legislative map from a “one

person, one vote” challenge, and in *CRST Van Expedited v. EEOC*, protecting CRST’s \$4 million attorney fee award as a prevailing defendant.

In *Kirtsaeng v. John Wiley & Sons*, Smith, representing John Wiley, persuaded the justices in June to use his standard for awarding attorney fees under the Copyright Act but the case was remanded for consideration of additional factors.

Jenner partner Adam Unikowsky, a few months earlier, successfully pressed the parental rights of the adoptive parent half

of a lesbian couple in the Supreme Court, winning a summary reversal of the Alabama Supreme Court. He notched a second win in June in *Puerto Rico v. Sanchez-Valle*, a double jeopardy clause challenge.

And in March, associate Amir Ali secured relief for potentially thousands of prisoners under mandatory minimum sentences with his argument in *Welch v. United States* involving the Armed Career Criminal Act.

Jenner appellate lawyers also spanned the nation’s appellate courts earning victories in the Fourth, Fifth and D.C. circuits.

In August, partners Richard Stone and David Singer won Sixth Circuit dismissal of the closely watched antitrust class action by former collegiate student-athletes for refusal to compensate them for their appearances in game broadcasts and advertisements.

—MARCIA COYLE