

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY **HOT LIST** | A SPECIAL REPORT

This week we recognize 15 law firms that accomplish great things in the realm of intellectual property law. We asked our readers to suggest firms that won major cases during 2014—both in dollars and impact—and received dozens of replies. We also conducted our own extensive research to identify the firms you'll find profiled here. They range from major firms with 1,000 or more lawyers to smaller shops that do IP law exclusively.



JOE PETERSEN

Kilpatrick Townsend & Stockton

Kilpatrick Townsend & Stockton racked up multiple awards last year for its intellectual property practice, and one of its partners, Danny Marti, was confirmed as President Barack Obama's intellectual property enforcement coordinator—in effect, his IP czar.

Partners attribute the firm's success to the its long history of IP work; in the early 20th century, Kilpatrick Townsend helped establish the unique hourglass shape of Coke bottles.

Notable legal victories for the firm last year included a case in which client Lionsgate Entertainment Corp. tried to stop the leak of the unreleased film "The Expendables 3." The firm's work resulted in the removal of more than 10,000 distribu-

tion points for the movie and an asset freeze against six torrent and download sources with connections to the United States.

The firm also secured a landmark victory for the HathiTrust Digital Library, a collaboration of more than 60 universities that have digitized their books to provide access for print-disabled users.

The U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit upheld the digitization of millions of books by HathiTrust against a claim brought by The Authors Guild, asserting that the practice is "quintessentially transformative" and a fair use, citing Congress' "commitment to ameliorating the hardships faced by the blind and the print disabled."

Joe Petersen, Kilpatrick Townsend's lead litigator on the case, said the win "helps define the boundaries of fair use for mass digitization."

Client Jack Bernard, associate general counsel for the University of Michigan, was struck by Kilpatrick Townsend's strong teamwork in the HathiTrust case.

"We could not have selected a better firm," he said. "There was a real commitment to the work that these institutions were doing. They really understood the undergirding principles."

—LISA LEDNICER

FIRM FACTS:

- Year founded: 1860 ■ Headquarters: Atlanta
- Total attorneys: 630 ■ IP partners: 103 ■ IP associates: 158