

The Texas Lawbook

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Litigation Roundup: Suit Over ‘Rushed’ \$788M Sale May Get Axed, SCOTX to Hear Fen-Phen Settlement Case

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In this edition of Litigation Roundup, a Texas federal judge threatens to toss a minority investor suit against Blackstone Inc., a Houston boutique notches a PTAB win against Apple, the Texas Supreme Court agrees to hear a suit stemming from the handling of a fen-phen settlement, and two other cases reversed by the Fifth Circuit.

Patent Trial and Appeal Board

Arigna Technology Beats Unified Patents, Apple at PTAB

Houston-based intellectual property boutique Heim, Payne & Chorush recently notched two wins at the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office’s Patent Trial and Appeal Board against Unified Patents and Apple on behalf of client Arigna Technology.

The wins for the Ireland-based technology company were handed down June 13 and 14, respectively. Unified Patents was attempting to invalidate an Arigna patent that covers technology used in the automotive industry in hybrid and electric vehicles that prevents damage to high-voltage integrated circuits in the event of an overcurrent.

Apple had requested inter partes review of an Arigna patent, attempting to contest two claims covering semiconductor technology

Arigna’s lead attorney, Michael Heim of Heim, Payne & Chorush, issued a statement to The Lawbook crediting the firm’s “hard work and a deep dive into the technology” for securing the win.

“We began by doing an extensive technical analysis of the patented inventions and the asserted prior art,” he said. “That helped us develop a full understanding of the important distinctions between the two and how to best explain those differences to the panel.”

Arigna is also represented by Chris Limbacher of Heim, Payne & Chorush.

Unified Patents is represented by its own Ashraf Fawzy, Roshan Mansinghani and Alyssa Holtslander and David McCombs, Jonathan Bowser, Angela Oliver and Raghav Bajaj of Haynes Boone.

Apple is represented by Paul R. Hart and Adam P. Seitz of Erise IP.

The case numbers are IPR2022-00285 and IPR2023-00453.