

# Daily Journal

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## Intellectual Property

### A Word About this List

Being a paid observer of the legal industry brings us a lot of enriching moments. But the absolute best part about our job is watching brilliant people facilitate creative ideas so that they blossom into real solutions. Nowhere is this more evident than in the intellectual property arena, in which lawyers draft and defend patents, copyrights and trademarks for medical cures, technological innovations and, of course, great entertainment.

This is the fourth year the Daily Journal has published a Top Intellectual Property Lawyers list. In putting it together, editors read hundreds of nominations from lawyers. We also consult Daily Journal reporters who cover this field and read our coverage of the practice.

To qualify, the lawyer must be based in California but his or

her work can be anywhere. Many of the litigators practice in the Eastern District of Texas but they also have cases in other federal districts and before the Federal Trade Commission in Washington, D.C. Portfolio managers work for companies in every corner of the globe.

The most important criterion for making the list is the impact of the work. How has this work affected an industry or society? Did it create or save jobs? Did it help bring to market a cure? Save a technological innovation?

The result is a lively mix of people doing fascinating work. There are tech gurus, science nerds and glitzy Hollywood folks. Read on. Get to know them.

— The Editors

## TOP 75 LEADING IP LITIGATORS



### ROBERT G. KRUPKA

Kirkland & Ellis LLP

Los Angeles

Patent

Krupka spent much of 2010 in the trenches of the smartphone wars, representing Apple Inc., in a fight for cellphone market share that's increasingly spilling over to the courtroom.

Finnish phone maker Nokia Corp. sued Apple in 2009 at the U.S. International Trade Commission, claiming software for the popular iPhone infringes on several of its patents. Cupertino-based Apple countersued, claiming that Nokia was infringing on its patents. Krupka, the most senior partner of Kirkland & Ellis LLP's intellectual property group, represented Apple at trial. The commission recently found that Apple didn't infringe on Nokia's patents.

In March, Apple sued Taiwan-based HTC Corp. at the trade commission, claiming the Droid's user interface infringed on Apple's patents. HTC countersued.

"It is a basic thermonuclear conflagration between the smartphone makers and wannabe smartphone makers," said Krupka, who is based in Los Angeles.

Between fighting patent wars for Apple, Krupka represented two subsidiaries of medical device maker Covidien Inc., in a patent infringement trial in the Eastern District of Texas. The subsidiaries accused E-Z-EM Inc., of violating its patents for contrast media injectors used in medical imaging procedures. The case settled just before closing arguments were to have taken place.

Intellectual property law feeds his interest in science, Krupka said.

"I'm always learning new things about new technologies. By definition, we're always at the cutting edge. And I'm insatiably curious. I just enjoy all the different things I learn."

— Brandon Ortiz