

Daily Journal

APRIL 7, 2010

Intellectual Property



The intellectual property space looms increasingly large in California's legal industry. As staff writer Craig Anderson writes on on Page 4, the Central District of California is now the largest IP venue in the nation. The Northern District, with its proximity to technology companies that fuel the nation's economic engine, also plays a crucial role. And then there is the Southern District, home to many of the nation's biotech companies.

lawyers are helping to draft and protect patents, trademarks and copyrights that bring us cleaner energy, faster technology, better medicine and more captivating entertainment.

Our process for selecting these lists — 75 IP litigators, patent prosecutors and license specialists, — is two-fold. We solicit nominations from firms, agencies, corporate counsels and other interested parties. Our staff reporters also nominate lawyers based on cases they've covered. We look for lawyers whose work had the most impact on their client and more importantly on the area of law and the larger society. Read on, to see what we found.

We began this list three years ago to recognize lawyers in California who are working on the world's cutting edge issues. Across California,

— *The Editors*

75 LEADING IP LITIGATORS



LUKE L. DAUCHOT
KIRKLAND & ELLIS LLP
LOS ANGELES

Patent Litigation

Dauchot was impressive enough winning a \$226 million jury verdict for patent infringement, and an eventual settlement last June for \$179 million, against Medtronic, Inc. that Medtronic hired him in another case.

He won the jury verdict in Massachusetts for client Biedermann Motech GmbH & Co. of Germany. Now he is representing Medtronic in a patent case pending in the Southern District of California.

He also defended Collins & Aikman Floorcoverings Inc. in a long-running patent dispute with Interface Inc. that concluded last year when Interface signed a covenant not to sue over alleged infringement over the installation of carpet tiles. The remainder of the case settled last summer without any finding of infringement or validity by Dauchot's client.

He settled a patent infringement case filed against clients Honeywell International Inc. and The Boeing Company in the Eastern District of New York, over systems used to remediate the risk of infringement in aircraft fuel tanks.