

Mayer Brown Snags 21 Howrey IP, Antitrust Lawyers

By **Bibeka Shrestha**

Law360, New York (March 18, 2011) -- Eight partners and 13 associates from the dissolved Howrey LLP are joining the ranks of Mayer Brown LLP, boosting the firm's intellectual property and antitrust and competition practices in Chicago, Los Angeles, New York and Washington.

"These outstanding lawyers bring to Mayer Brown proven records of achievement in their respective disciplines, and will further enhance our ability to serve client needs in the IP, antitrust and litigation arenas," Mayer Brown chairman Bert Krueger said in a statement Thursday. "Opportunities to bring in lawyers of their caliber do not occur often, and we are delighted to welcome them to the firm."

Alan Grimaldi, former co-chair of Howrey's IP practice, will take on a role as co-leader of Mayer Brown's global IP practice.

After working at Howrey for nearly 40 years, Grimaldi said he left the firm with sadness, but added that he and his team were excited to join a firm that had made growing its IP practice a top priority.

"We felt most comfortable with the commitment, the management and the kind of international brand that Mayer had," Grimaldi said. "It's a bright new day. My folks are energized."

The IP group moving to Mayer Brown includes partners Theresa Gillis, Brian Rosenthal, Thomas Jenkins and Steven Yovits. Gillis will head to Mayer Brown's New York office; Rosenthal and seven associates will work out of Washington; and Jenkins, Yovits and one associate will join Mayer's Chicago office.

John P. Mancini, a co-leader of Mayer Brown's global IP practice, pointed out that the IP group has more than 75 years of collective first-chair experience in patent and other IP litigation.

"That's a rare breed, and not only do they have that experience, they're accomplished at it," Mancini said. "They have handled some of the most significant IP cases of our era, particularly in the technology, medical devices and pharma/life sciences fields, which are areas of strategic focus for Mayer Brown's IP practice."

Mayer Brown is also welcoming Howrey partners Carmine R. Zarlenga, Dale Giali and Michael Resch for its antitrust and competition practice. Zarlenga and three associates will join Mayer Brown's Washington office, while Giali and Resch, along with two associates, will head to Los Angeles.

"The addition of three new partners in Washington, D.C., continues the firm's strategic investment in practice areas of high significance to clients," said Mark Ryan, partner-in-charge of Mayer Brown's Washington office.

Zarlenga said his team chose Mayer Brown for its top-tier antitrust and litigation practices, global platform, and excellent client synergies.

"The interface between IP and antitrust is becoming increasingly important, and with Alan and his team also joining Mayer Brown, the firm will be perfectly positioned to lead in this exciting and dynamic field," Zarlenga said.

Grimaldi, a former co-chair of Howrey's commercial trial group, has racked up significant experience in patent and other IP litigation, as well as private and government antitrust and other complex commercial litigation.

He has represented clients in nationwide class actions, multidistrict litigation in federal and state courts, federal and state administrative agency litigation, unfair competition, insurance coverage, products liability and trade-related litigation.

Zarlenga has worked in more than 50 state and federal courts on behalf of some of the largest national and international companies worldwide. He has adeptly handled everything from complex class actions with claimed damages exceeding \$1 billion to matters involving antitrust, contract, fraud, business torts, trade secrets and false advertising.

Gillis, who worked as managing partner of Howrey's New York office, will bring nearly 35 years of both trial and appellate experience. She has gained extensive experience in patent infringement, enforceability, misuse and validity, as well as copyright infringement and validity, trademark infringement and dilution, unfair competition and trade secrets.

--Editing by Greg Ryan.

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