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Law360's Legal Lions Of The Week

By **Kevin Penton**

Law360 (September 5, 2025, 3:08 PM EDT) -- Milbank LLP, Wilson Sonsini Goodrich & Rosati PC and the Liberty Justice Center lead this week's edition of Law360 Legal Lions, after the Federal Circuit held that President Donald Trump's emergency tariffs were improperly imposed under the International Emergency Economic Powers Act.

In a precedential 7-4 ruling on Aug. 29, the Federal Circuit majority largely upheld a decision from the U.S. Court of International Trade, which found that the IEEPA does not give the president the "unbounded authority" to impose tariffs on goods from nearly every country in the world.

A group of small businesses challenging the tariffs are represented by Neal Katyal, Colleen Roh Sinzduk and Samantha Ilagan of Milbank, Michael McConnell, Steffen Johnson and Paul Harold of Wilson Sonsini, Jeffrey Schwab, Reilly Stephens and James McQuaid of the Liberty Justice Center, and Ilya Somin of George Mason University's Antonin Scalia Law School.

A dozen states that are also challenging the tariffs, including Arizona, New York and Oregon, are represented by their attorneys general.

Boies Schiller Flexner LLP, Susman Godfrey LLP and Morgan & Morgan PA triumphed as a California federal jury determined Wednesday that Google unlawfully collected information from 98 million cellphone users who had asked the tech giant not to track their app activity, awarding over \$425 million in damages.

After a nearly three-week trial, the jury deliberated for approximately 10 hours over two days before reaching its verdict in a case over claims that Google unlawfully saved and used information about consumers' activities on third-party apps, even though the users opted out of tracking.

The users are represented by David Boies, Hsiao Mao, James Lee, Alison Anderson, Beko Reblitz-Richardson, Samantha Parrish and Logan Wright of Boies Schiller, Bill Carmody, Amanda Bonn, Shawn Rabin, Steven Shepard, Alexander Frawley and Ryan Sila of Susman Godfrey, and John Yanchunis, Ryan McGee and Michael Ram of Morgan & Morgan.

Lehotsky Keller Cohn LLP, Quinn Emanuel Urquhart & Sullivan LLP, King & Spalding LLP and Ropes & Gray LLP make this week's list after a Massachusetts federal judge ruled Wednesday that the Trump administration illegally froze more than \$2 billion in grants earmarked for Harvard University.

U.S. District Judge Allison D. Burroughs held that Trump's attempt to stop \$2.2 billion in grant funding ran

afoul of the First Amendment, Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, and the Administrative Procedure Act.

Harvard is represented by Steven Lehotsky, Katherine Yarger, Josh Morrow, Danielle Goldstein, Scott Keller, Jonathan Cohn, Mary Miller, Shannon Denmark and Jacob Richards of Lehotsky Keller, William Burck of Quinn Emanuel, Robert Hur of King & Spalding, and Joshua Levy, Douglas Hallward-Driemeier, Mark Barnes, John Bueker, Elena Davis and Stephen Sencer of Ropes & Gray.

Scott + Scott Attorneys at Law LLP roared when a split Ninth Circuit panel on Aug. 29 **revived** a proposed investor class action suit accusing Robinhood Markets Inc. of failing to disclose a downturn in user interest ahead of its \$2.1 billion initial public offering, ruling that corporations planning to go public have a duty to disclose material financial information even from quarters that have just ended.

The investors are represented by Deborah Clark-Weintraub, Hal Cunningham, Emilie Kokmanian, Thomas Laughlin and John Jasnoch of Scott + Scott.

Morgan Lewis & Bockius LLP and Porter Wright Morris & Arthur LLP succeeded when an Ohio federal judge tossed a nearly two-decade-old lawsuit accusing Freddie Mac of failing to warn investors about its exposure to the flagging subprime market. U.S. District Judge Benita Pearson ruled that the lawsuit hadn't identified any material misleading statements made by the company in the lead-up to the housing crisis.

Freddie Mac is represented by Jason Frank, Emily Renshaw, Fred Block and Andrew Buttarro of Morgan Lewis and Hugh McKay of Porter Wright.

Milbank, Skadden Arps Slate Meagher & Flom LLP, Davis Polk & Wardwell LLP, McCann FitzGerald LLP and Norton Rose Fulbright round out this week's pride after Tuesday's announcement that Apollo Global Management and Brookfield are backing a \$28.2 billion deal to take aircraft lessor Air Lease Corp. private, alongside Japan's Sumitomo Corp. and SMBC Aviation Capital.

The Milbank team advising Apollo and Brookfield is led by partners Drew Fine, John Franchini, Alexandra Johnson, Freyda Mechlowicz, Sean O'Neill, Daniel Tyrrell and Benjamin Fidler, and also includes Carolina Walther-Meade, Grant Bermann, Andrea Hamilton, Max Goodman, Andrew Walker, John Beahn, Ariella Stepanian, Lisa Koo, Brenda Luo, Emilie Blicher, Cleopatra Gray, Derrik Sweeney and Charlotte Hopkinson

The Skadden team advising Air Lease includes Thomas Greenberg, Mark Chorazak, Joseph Penko, Steven Messina, Michael Hong, Gavin White, Steven Sunshine, Bill Batchelor and Michael Leiter.

The Davis Polk team advising SMBC includes William Aaronson, Luigi De Ghenghi, Lee Hochbaum, Eric McLaughlin, Jack Orford, Pritesh Shah and Jennifer Conway.

Sumitomo is advised by Alan Bainbridge, Akihiko Takamatsu, Chris Randall, Duncan Batchelor, Alex Green, Juliet Gordon-Biggs, Chiranj Shah, Steven Suzzan, Tim Byrne, Stefan Reisinger and Marc Waha of Norton Rose.

McCann FitzGerald also advised SMBC. Additional deal team information was not immediately available.

--Additional reporting by Hailey Konnath, Bonnie Eslinger, Chris Villani, Jessica Corso and Al Barbarino. Editing by Robert Rudinger.

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