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## Law360's Legal Lions Of The Week

By **Kevin Penton**

*Law360 (August 18, 2023, 10:19 AM EDT)* -- Alliance Defending Freedom heads this week's edition of Law360 Legal Lions, as the Fifth Circuit upheld a lower court's placing of certain restrictions on the abortion pill mifepristone.

A three-judge appellate panel on Wednesday allowed the pill to remain legal in the U.S. but upheld a Texas federal judge's ruling in April that placed restrictions on its access, including barring its access through the mail and requiring patients to make three physical visits to a doctor. The anti-abortion groups in the case are represented by Erin Hawley, James Campbell, Erik Baptist, John Bursch, Matthew Bowman, Julie Marie Blake and Cody Barnett of Alliance Defending Freedom.

Western Environmental Law Center, McGarvey Law, Our Children's Trust and Gregory Law Group represented a group of young people in Montana as a state judge determined Monday that the individuals have a right under Montana's constitution to a "clean and healthful environment" and that laws barring the consideration of greenhouse gas emissions in the state's permitting process are unconstitutional. The young plaintiffs are represented by Melissa Hornbein and Barbara Chillcott of Western Environmental Law Center, Roger Sullivan and Dustin Leftridge of McGarvey Law, Nathan Bellinger, Andrea Rodgers and Julia Olson of Our Children's Trust and Philip Gregory of Gregory Law Group.

Boies Schiller Flexner LLP, Kessler Topaz Meltzer & Check LLP, Grant & Eisenhofer PA and Bernstein Litowitz Berger & Grossmann LLP roared Monday as a Washington, D.C., federal jury found that the U.S. Federal Housing Finance Agency improperly amended stock purchase agreements related to Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac in 2012 to allow the U.S. Treasury to sweep up net profits for the companies involved. The jury awarded the companies' shareholders \$612.4 million in damages. The shareholders are represented by Hamish P. M. Hume and Samuel C. Kaplan of Boies Schiller, Eric J. Zagar of Kessler Topaz, Michael J. Barry of Grant & Eisenhofer and Adam Wierzbowski of Bernstein Litowitz.

McKool Smith and Irell & Manella LLP triumphed last Friday on behalf of circuit board designer Netlist Inc. as U.S. District Judge Rodney Gilstrap finalized a finding that Samsung Electronics Co. Ltd. owes more than \$303 million to their client for infringing at least one claim in each of the five patents at issue. Netlist is represented by Samuel F. Baxter and Jennifer L. Truelove of McKool Smith and an Irell & Manella team that includes Jason Sheasby, Rebecca Carson, Annita Zhong, Thomas Werner, Andrew Strabone, Yanan Zhao, Michael Tezyan, Lisa Glasser, Stephen Payne, Benjamin Manzin-Monnin, Michael Harbour, Thomas Barr, Michael Rosen, Isabella Chestney, Erick Franklund and David Kahn.

The Law Offices of Francis O. Scarpulla, Roberts Law Firm US PC, NastLaw LLC and Hausfeld LLP asked a California federal court Wednesday to grant preliminary approval to a deal in which Gilead Sciences Inc. would pay \$246.8 million to their direct purchaser clients — including KPH Healthcare Services Inc. — to settle claims that the pharmaceutical company cut a deal with Teva to delay generic versions of its HIV medications. The direct purchasers are represented by Francis O. Scarpulla and Patrick Clayton of the Law Offices of Francis O. Scarpulla, Michael Roberts, Erich Schork and Sarah DeLoach of Roberts Law Firm, Dianne Nast, Daniel Gallucci and Michele Burkholder of NastLaw and Michael Hausfeld and Michael Lehmann of Hausfeld.

Wilson Sonsini Goodrich & Rosati PC succeeded last Friday, after a Washington federal judge threw out a think tank's investor suit challenging coffee chain Starbucks' diversity policies. Eastern District of Washington Chief Judge Stanley A. Bastian rejected the National Center for Public Policy Research's claims that the policies amount to racial discrimination that put shareholders at risk. Starbucks and the individual defendants are represented by Gregory L. Watts, Stephanie L. Jensen, Mary Zou and Tyre L. Tindall of Wilson Sonsini.

Kirkland & Ellis LLP and Vinson & Elkins LLP round out this week's list of Legal Lions for steering Energy Transfer LP's \$7.1 billion acquisition of fellow Texas energy company Crestwood Equity Partners LP, in a deal announced Wednesday. Energy Transfer was represented by Debbie Yee, Sean Wheeler, Camille Walker, David Wheat, Joe Tobias, Julian Seiguer, Atma Kabad, Rob Fowler, Stephanie Jeane and Rachael Lichman of Kirkland. Crestwood was represented by Sarah Morgan, Steve Gill, Ramey Layne, John Lynch, Ryan Carney, Shane Tucker, Hill Wellford and Becky Baker of Vinson & Elkins.

--Additional reporting by Jeff Overley, Keith Goldberg, Katie Buehler, Peter McGuire, Adam Lidgett, Matthew Perlman, Hailey Konnath and Al Barbarino. Editing by Alyssa Miller.