

THE NATIONAL LAW JOURNAL

2011 APPELLATE HOT LIST

APRIL 18, 2011

Our annual Appellate Hot List recognizes firms that made exemplary contributions to appellate practice during the past year. We asked our readers to nominate firms with at least one significant appellate victory since January 2010 and that had demonstrated an impressive track record overall. We supplemented this material with our own extensive research to arrive upon the 17 firms listed here. We understand that appellate victories frequently are collaborations, and regret that we lack space to fully recognize all the firms that contributed to the cases listed. We highlighted cases that affected the course of industries, vindicated important constitutional rights, and in which an awful lot of money was at stake. We gave extra weight to cases in which the firms pulled off come-from-behind wins.

The firms we honored this year are: Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld; Baker Botts; Covington & Burling; Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher; Hogan Lovells; Jenner & Block; Jones Day; Kellogg, Huber, Hansen, Todd, Evans & Figel; King & Spalding; Latham & Watkins; Mayer Brown; Orrick, Herrington & Sutcliffe; Proskauer Rose; **Quinn Emanuel Urquhart & Sullivan**; Robbins, Russell, Englert, Orseck, Untereiner & Sauber; Sidley Austin; and Wilmer Cutler Pickering Hale and Dorr.

QUINN EMANUEL URQUHART & SULLIVAN

Quinn Emanuel's 33-lawyer nationwide appellate practice focuses on significant cases before the U.S. Supreme Court, the circuit courts of appeals and state high courts. Since January 2010, the group has won two cases before the U.S. Supreme Court.

NOTEWORTHY CASES

- ***Kawasaki Kisen Kaisha Ltd. v. Regal-Beloit Corp.*** Lead counsel Kathleen Sullivan, Daniel Bromberg. In a case of keen interest to shipping concerns, the Supreme Court held that ocean carriers fall outside the scope of the Carmack Amendment to the Interstate Commerce Act when they issue "through" bills of lading involving subcontracts for inland rail transport. Carriers thus escape regulatory and insurance burdens.
- ***Bruesewitz v. Wyeth LLC.*** Lead counsel Kathleen Sullivan (argued), Faith Gay, Sanford Weisburst. The Supreme Court ruled in favor of client Wyeth that the National Childhood Vaccine Injury Act pre-empts state tort suits against vaccine manufacturers. Administrative compensation was judged the exclusive remedy for vaccine injuries. The court cited the need to promote universal childhood immunization.
- ***Federal Treasury Enterprise Sojuzplodoimport v. Spirits International N.V.*** Lead counsel Kathleen Sullivan (argued), Daniel Bromberg, David Quinto. The 2d Circuit ruled unanimously for a Russian agency seeking to recover rights to the Stolichnaya vodka trademarks in the United States, saying that even assignments of incontestable trademarks may be challenged.