A Stoked Batch of Litigator of the Week Runners-Up

By Ross Todd March 26, 2021

- ➤ A Latham & Watkins team led by partners BJ Trach, Elizabeth Deeley, Andrew Clubok, Susan Engel and Stephen Barry, and associates Daniel Gherardi and Michael Clemente gets a runner-up nod for securing a ruling knocking out a shareholder derivative suit against Facebook. The suit claimed Facebook harmed investors by not following through on its public commitment to diversity and inclusion. U.S. Magistrate Judge Laurel Beeler in San Francisco found that the "plaintiff's allegations—about diversity on the board, the problematic nomination process, and the diversity of senior executives—are contradicted by the record about the actual composition of the board and the nomination process."
- ➤ Here's a shout out to a team at Latham & Watkins who knocked out an antitrust lawsuit brought against the Hollywood Foreign Press Association by two overseas entertainment news reporters seeking access to American actors for interviews. U.S. District Judge Stanley Blumenfeld Jr. in Los Angeles found this week the plaintiffs "fashioned an antitrust theory that is creative but implausible and contradictory." The Latham team representing the HFPA includes partners Marvin Putnam, Christopher Yates, Robert Ellison and associates John Steinbach, Sami Cleland, Chloe Korban.
- A separate team at Latham gets a big shout out for knocking out two securities class actions against client LogMeIn in a 72-hour period last week, in federal court in Massachusetts and state court in Florida. Partner Jeff Hammel and Brian Glennon and associates Greg Mortenson, Eric Pettis and Sean Roberts worked on both cases. They were joined in the federal case by partner BJ Trach, counsel Betsy Marks and associate Andrej Novakovski.