Litigator of the Week Runners-Up and Shout-Outs

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First up this week is a Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher team led by Theane Evangelis and Blaine Evanson, who previously landed Runners-Up honors in November for knocking out a $198 million punitive damages award against UPS in a retaliation and wrongful termination suit brought by a Black delivery driver in Yakima, Washington. Last week U.S. District Judge Thomas Rice in Spokane went a step further and tossed the $39.6 million compensatory damages award in the case and ordered a new trial. Rice found the plaintiff's counsel "unfairly influenced the jury's award" by repeatedly violating a ruling excluding the time-barred contents of a 2018 Equal Employment Opportunity Commission complaint. The Gibson Dunn team also included Madeleine McKenna, Josh Zuckerman and Min soo Kim, with co-counsel from the trial team at Ogletree Deakins including Elizabeth Falcone, Michael Mitchell and Florence Mao. Meanwhile, fresh off Litigator of the Week honors in January for landing a directed verdict win for Cisco Systems Inc. in a patent trial in Waco, Texas, Gibson Dunn's Brian Rosenthal paired with partner Kate Dominguez for yet another West Texas trial win for Cisco. Last week jurors sided with Cisco in a case brought on behalf of Brazos Licensing and Development accusing Cisco's networking routers of infringing a patent related to the use of diameter dictionaries. The verdict appears to be the first defense win under Section 273, which allows a defendant to base a noninfringement defense on its prior commercial use of the claimed invention. The Gibson Dunn team included Allen Kathir, Emily Whitcher, Ryan Jin and Claire Santiago. To read the complete article visit Law.com (subscription required) Reprinted with permission from the February 21, 2025 edition of "The AmLaw Litigation Daily" © 2025 ALM Global Properties, LLC. All rights reserved. Further duplication without permission is prohibited, contact 877-256-2472 or asset-and-logo-licensing@alm.com.

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