

Litigator of the Week Runners-Up

Accolades | December 19, 2025

The AmLaw Litigation Daily

A Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher team led by Tom Dupree upheld their win for Churchill Downs Inc. from earlier this year blocking the state of Michigan's efforts to shut down betting on out-of-state races via the company's TwinSpires app. The Sixth Circuit this week upheld an injunction barring the state's licensing requirement, finding it was likely preempted by the federal Interstate Horseracing Act. The team representing Churchill Downs includes Gibson partner Christine Demana and associates John Tienken, Abby Walters and Thomas Moore; in-house lawyers, including Churchill Downs GC Brad Blackwell and corporate counsels Brandon Kenney and Andrew Silver; and Michigan counsel Patrick Seyferth and Derek Linkous of Bush Seyferth and Jason Hanselman and Kyle Asher of Dykema Gossett.

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