

Rising Star: Gibson Dunn's Chantale Fiebig

By Sarah Jarvis

Law360 (October 1, 2019, 4:54 PM EDT) -- Gibson Dunn & Crutcher LLP's Chantale Fiebig currently leads the defense of Daimler AG and Mercedes-Benz USA in a class action emissions case in which she previously helped secure a dismissal, landing her among the transportation law practitioners under age 40 honored by Law360 as Rising Stars.

THE BIGGEST CASE OF HER CAREER:

Fiebig cited the ongoing emissions case against Mercedes-Benz and Daimler as the biggest of her career. She said it's particularly exciting because although other vehicle manufacturers have been sued in similar cases, the law in this area is still evolving, so she gets to help shape important issues such as federal preemption.

"This has been an incredibly exciting matter for several reasons, including the client's level of sophistication, the complexity of the claims, and the cutting-edge law and technology that are at issue," she said. "But it's also been challenging because the transportation sector, like many others, has clear regulatory overlays that also can inform and influence litigations."

THE PROUDEST MOMENT OF HER CAREER:

Fiebig — whose brother Jason was named one of Law360's white collar Rising Stars this year — said some of her proudest moments came during the several years she spent serving as an assistant U.S. attorney in Detroit. During that time, she argued seven cases at the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit.

"I always felt extremely proud standing at the podium to represent the United States," Fiebig said.

WHAT MOTIVATES HER:

Fiebig said she's motivated by her clients and colleagues. She's driven to achieve the best possible client outcomes, and she

**RISING
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STAR**



Chantale Fiebig
Gibson Dunn

Age: 39
Home base: Washington, D.C.
Position: Partner
Law school: Stanford Law School
First job after law school: Associate
at Simpson Thacher & Bartlett LLP

appreciates working at a firm with other attorneys working together toward that end.

“There is such an exciting element of strategy and anticipating your opponent’s next steps so that you are positioning your client both to prevail on legal issues, but also to achieve the best possible practical outcomes for your clients,” she said.

OTHER NOTABLE CASES:

Fiebig is also representing Facebook in an ongoing case in Washington, D.C., Superior Court over allegations the social media giant failed to prevent abuse of users’ data in the Cambridge Analytica scandal.

“That has been an exciting and important case, full of breaking news updates, but also important legal questions about how and whether technology companies are subject to jurisdiction in local courts,” she said. “It raises important questions of how tech companies and consumers relate to one another.”

WHAT THE FUTURE HOLDS FOR HER PRACTICE:

She said technological advancements will continue to change the field of transportation litigation and many others. Disruption and innovation in the commercial landscape, as well as regulatory shifts, will help guide litigation moving forward, she said.

“In litigation practices generally, I expect ... one of the continuing trends to be a need to manage litigation risk and our clients' legal and business challenges that arise as a result of all of those changes, both in the U.S. and around the world,” she said.

— As told to Sarah Jarvis

Law360's Rising Stars are attorneys under 40 whose legal accomplishments belie their age. A team of Law360 editors selected the 2019 Rising Stars winners after reviewing more than 1,300 submissions. Attorneys had to be under 40 years old as of April 30, 2019, in order to be considered for this year's award. This interview has been edited and condensed.