

MVP: Gibson Dunn's Jane M. Love

By Adam Lidgett

Law360 (November 14, 2019, 2:45 PM EST) -- Gibson Dunn & Crutcher LLP partner Jane Love was able to convince the Federal Circuit to affirm a lower court's decision that upheld a patent on her client Novartis AG's multiple sclerosis drug Gilenya, a ruling that will prevent regulatory approval of a generic version, earning her a spot among **Law360's 2019 Life Sciences MVPs**.

HER BIGGEST ACCOMPLISHMENT OF THE YEAR:

Love had several wins for clients this year, including at the Federal Circuit in June when the court ruled that the Patent Trial and Appeal Board was within its rights to let Merck Sharp & Dohme Corp. add its parent company to an inter partes review without resetting the clock on the litigation.

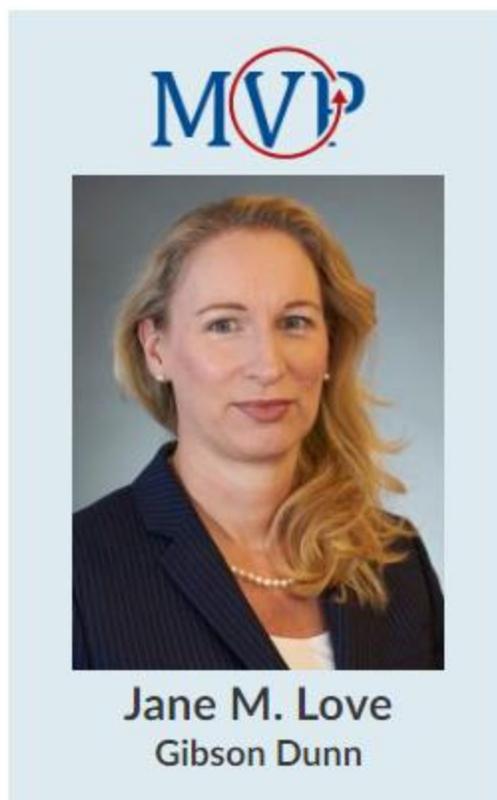
But Love said her biggest accomplishment of the year came in December, when the Federal Circuit in a different case said a lower court judge was correct to find a patent for Gilenya was valid and a five-year extension of its term did not violate the Hatch-Waxman Act.

"This was a case that had an immediate impact across the pharmaceutical and biotech industries in terms of their patent estate, and it was a big deal for me because there was an immediate realization that this was a case helping to clarify the case law that was important in real terms to life sciences companies," Love said.

WHY SHE IS A LIFE SCIENCES ATTORNEY:

Love said she likes problem-solving and technology, and that she is very gratified to be working in an area where the patent incentive structure allows her to see an immediate impact. She also said she found it gratifying to be working in an area of law that directly affects human health.

"Patent disputes are something that are involved with the ability for life science companies to continue to investigate and invest in potentially new drugs and new ways of improving human health," she said.



ADVICE SHE HAS FOR YOUNGER ATTORNEYS:

Love said having an open mind is important in her field and that younger attorneys should be excited by the problems they face each day. She said attorneys should take seriously the place lawyers have in society as people who resolve disputes.

"Have an open mind in order to think about different solutions to the problems you face, and hopefully you'll love doing that because that is part and parcel about being an IP attorney," she said. "And the creative thinking that goes into solving those problems is something that is directly related to creating new law, which is of course how society ends up organizing itself around disputes. It's a serious role; the more creativity and open-minded problem solving that's brought to that issue, I think the better."

WHAT MOTIVATES HER:

Love said she is excited about the legal problems she is faced with every day. She said she is motivated by seeing how, especially in today's world, lawyers actually play a part in the development of jurisprudence.

"It is something that inspires me because we are able to make an impact in how the law develops, and that of course has an impact on activity, whether that be in life science companies or in business transactions," she said.

— *As told to Adam Lidgett*

Law360's MVPs are attorneys who have distinguished themselves from their peers over the past year through high-stakes litigation, record-breaking deals and complex global matters. A team of Law360 editors selected the 2019 MVP winners after reviewing nearly 900 submissions.