

Daily Journal

MAY 24, 2017

TOP WOMEN LAWYERS

The Daily Journal's Annual List of Leading Women Lawyers in California

Davida Brook

Brook is an associate, but she's already comfortable navigating high-stakes litigation involving some of the largest figures in the tech and music industries.

Last year Brook played a critical role in securing an appellate victory for Steven Lamar and Jibe Audio LLC in a \$100 million dispute over royalties allegedly owed by Beats Electronics LLC, Dr. Dre and Jimmy Iovine for a series of headphones that Lamar had designed. Brook argued before the court that the language in a 2007 royalty agreement was ambiguous enough to cover the design of the headphones and not just a single product. The case has been remanded for a trial scheduled in the fall. *Jibe Audio LLC et al. v. Pentagram Design Inc. et al.*, B267633 (Cal. App. 2nd Dist., filed Sept. 16, 2016).

As Brook gears up for trial, she is also busy handling the latest step in an acrimonious legal dispute between two billionaires — her client, Louis Bacon, who is the founder of the hedge fund Moore Capital Management, and retail giant Peter Nygard. Brook and a team of Susman



SUSMAN GODFREY LLP

LOS ANGELES

Practice Type: Litigation

Godfrey attorneys argued successfully in a lower court that Nygard's lawsuit infringed on their client's free speech. Nygard's legal team is trying to appeal. *Nygard International Partnership et al. v. Feralio*, B266683 (Cal. App. 2nd Dist., filed Sept. 10, 2015).

Brook is also representing Vaporstream Inc. in a patent infringement case filed earlier this year against Snap Inc., the creator of the popular Snapchat messaging app, which alleges that the company has infringed on patents granted to Vaporstream in July 2005 for its secure messaging products. A motion filed by Snap to dismiss the case is under submission. *Vaporstream v. Snap Inc.*, 17-CV-00220 (C.D. Cal., filed Jan. 10, 2017).

Brook credits her active role in all three cases to Susman Godfrey's practice of staffing matters leanly, giving associates a chance to work closely with partners and make meaningful contributions to cases.

"They love to see associates step up into the role of helping to run trial cases," Brook said. She added that the firm has received positive feedback from judges for giving associates in-depth court experience.

— Eli Wolfe