

Daily Journal

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Top 20 Twenty Under 40 Forty

To compile this list, Daily Journal editors and reporters considered hundreds of lawyers from throughout California. We looked at every major practice type, including corporate transactions, criminal prosecution and intellectual property litigation.

The most important consideration was the

work. How have this lawyer's cases impacted the law, a particular sector of industry or society? That's the first question we ask ourselves in considering each person. We also look at the candidate's impact on the legal community. Is he or she taking a leadership role within the firm, agency or organization? Are they active

in bar groups and public service organizations?

As you read through this supplement, we think you'll agree that California's legal talent is some of the best you'll find anywhere in the world.

-The Editors



Kalpana Srinivasan



Susman Godfrey LLP
Los Angeles

Practice Type: Litigation
Practice Specialty: Patent
Age: 38

Srinivasan has become accustomed to taking on Goliaths, either on the plaintiff or the defense side.

"Bigger doesn't always mean more clever or more efficient or more strategic," she said. "It's important to have confidence in your ability to keep tackling the issues that matter and not get distracted by the size of the mountain ahead of you."

Her Goliaths have ranged from the National Hockey League to Google Inc., Apple Inc., Microsoft and Sony Corp. And her cases have generated a billion dollars in recoveries and savings for clients on both sides of the aisle, she said.

Srinivasan was part of the legal team that won a favorable ruling in October for client Jerry Moyes, former owner of the Phoenix Coyotes against a \$145 million breach of contract lawsuit by the NHL. *NHL v. Moyes et al.*, CV12-2130 (D. Ariz., filed March 5, 2010).

"A federal bankruptcy judge threw out most of the claims and damages sought by the NHL after we success-

fully moved for summary judgment," Srinivasan said.

Also last year, she represented MicroUnity Systems Engineering Inc. in its patent infringement lawsuit against major players in the smartphone and tablet industry, including Apple and Samsung.

At issue were patents covering MicroUnity's media processor technology. The case settled shortly before trial.

Srinivasan currently represents PersonalWeb Technologies in five separate patent infringement lawsuits against Google, Facebook, Microsoft, Apple and Yahoo.

The cases extend from the Eastern District of Texas to the Northern District of California, with trials set for this year.

"With patent matters, I really do like the added layer of trying to understand and translate technical aspects of the case to a jury, a judge or a mediator in a way that gives it meaning and helps demonstrate what the dispute is really about," Srinivasan said.

— Pat Broderick