

# Daily Journal

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## TOP INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY LAWYERS



### Susman Godfrey L.L.P. LOS ANGELES

## Kalpana Srinivasan

**B**efore law school, Kalpana Srinivasan worked as a journalist for The Associated Press, covering communications policy, including the rollout of broadband and deregulation of traditional landline phones through the 1996 Telecom Act.

“Even though I reported for a general consumer audience, I learned a lot about the nitty-gritty technical details of various communication systems – from upgraded

copper loops to satellites to emerging wireless technology,” she said. “I really enjoyed exploring how these developments translated into real-world benefits for the broad readership of the AP. When I transitioned to the legal industry, that interest stayed with me.”

Since then, Srinivasan has clerked for Judge Raymond C. Fisher, who served on the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals.

“He had the diverse background of a long career in private civil practice; time in the government serving on the [Los Angeles Police Commission] and as the number three official in the Justice Department; and finally, his notable service on the bench,” she said. “These experiences gave him the ability to maintain a deep perspective and see all sides of an issue. I learned so much from his detailed approach to analyzing the cases before him.”

Nowadays, she litigates cases that are remolding the landscape of IP law across trade secrets, patent and copyright law.

In the past year, she led a team that secured a significant victory at a Florida state court with a nearly \$160 million arbitral award on behalf of client Black Knight against PennyMac.

The case centered around PennyMac’s misuse of Black Knight’s confidential information to develop its own mortgage servicing system. The arbitrator’s decision in 2024 confirmed the extensive and improper utilization of Black Knight’s confidential information by PennyMac, which violated contractual restrictions.

“The scope of Black Knight confidential information found to be accessed and misused by PennyMac in violation of its contractual restrictions was very broad and touched on many areas of a large, complex software system,” Srinivasan said. “This required detailed discovery and presentation in the arbitration to show how different types of information were improperly utilized.”

Analyzing trends, she said she has noticed increasing and varied counter strikes on rights holders seeking to assert or be compensated for use of their intellectual property.

“Whether in the form of counterclaims or affirmative actions in other jurisdictions, parties alleged of infringement or misuse of IP are going on the offensive -- often with legal issues that do not bear on the underlying IP issues between the parties like RICO, antitrust and fraud claims,” Srinivasan said.