

Latham Nabs Ex-Mayer Brown Copyright Litigator In NY

By **Dorothy Atkins**

Law360 (October 2, 2020, 6:25 PM EDT) -- Latham & Watkins LLP has added a former Mayer Brown LLP litigator to the firm's New York office who's experienced in representing technology giants including Spotify in high-stakes litigation involving cutting-edge copyright issues.

In a Tuesday statement, the firm said Allison Stillman has joined its connectivity privacy and information practice. She has advised a number of technology companies in high-profile litigation and regulatory matters, and she helped secure court approval of a \$43 million settlement on behalf of Spotify in a suit brought by songwriters.



Allison Stillman

The accomplishment earned her a spot as one of the media and entertainment law practitioners under age 40 honored by Law360 as Rising Stars last year.

Stillman said in a statement this week that she's honored to be joining Latham's "dynamic and expanding team," which she said is taking on the most influential copyright disputes in the digital media frontier.

"Latham provides the global resources and multidisciplinary muscle that will help me further grow my practice," she said. "Through my work with several Latham lawyers ... I know that the team collaborates seamlessly to deliver phenomenal results for clients."

Stillman specializes in representing technology giants in landmark Digital Millennium Copyright Act litigation and counseling clients on a range of legal issues that arise in the crosshairs of evolving technology and media platforms.

Last year, Stillman told Law360 that it is a particularly exciting time to be in the digital music industry in light of the recently enacted Music Modernization Act, which made major changes to how streaming music services, such as Spotify and Pandora, pay so-called mechanical royalties, which go to songwriters when a musical composition is reproduced.

In particular, she has worked with the Digital Media Association, whose members include Amazon, Apple, Google and Pandora, in connection with implementing the legislation. The changes will likely impact the legal landscape of the digital music industry for a long time to come, Stillman said at the time.

Latham's New York office managing partner Michèle Penzer said in a statement that she is happy to welcome Stillman to the trial team in New York.

"Her combination of litigation skills, regulatory knowledge, and technical insight will undoubtedly benefit clients, particularly leading innovators in the digital media space," Penzer said.

Andy Gass, a partner and copyright litigator in the San Francisco Bay Area, added that Stillman is a "force to be reckoned with in the world of digital media law."

"I have had the privilege of working across from and beside her, so I know that she brings a mastery of complex technical issues, clear-headed judgment and the ability to anticipate evolving legal questions," Gass said.

Stillman earned her undergraduate degree from the University of Pennsylvania and her law degree from the University of Pennsylvania Law School, where she served as the senior editor of the University of Pennsylvania Law Review, according to Latham.

Before her private practice, Stillman clerked for Ninth Circuit Judge Richard R. Clifton, Latham said.

The firm said Stillman is the third copyright litigator to join it in the past two years. Trial attorney Joe Wetzel joined Latham in January 2019 from King & Spalding LLP after he scored a victory on behalf of music streaming giant Pandora Media Inc. in a licensing fight with the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers, which landed him a spot as one of Law360's Rising Stars in 2017.

In May 2018, Sy Damle, former general counsel of the U.S. Copyright Office, also joined Latham.

--Additional reporting by Tiffany Hu and Hailey Konnath. Editing by Orlando Lorenzo.