

## IP Firms of the Year

By **Nick Malinowski**

Law360, New York (January 01, 2010) -- Despite the recession, intellectual property litigation steamed forward in 2009, with the *Bilski* case before the U.S. Supreme Court, the reversal of the 2007 U.S. Patent and Trademark Office proposed rules package, the Federal Circuit's efforts to rein in damages in patent litigation and the largest patent verdict in U.S. history, among the many actions that grabbed headlines during the past year.

### Finnegan Henderson Farabow Garrett & Dunner LLP

One of Law360's IP Firms of the Year, Finnegan picked up a spot on the list of for its work on *Bilski* and its representation of Phicom Corp., LG Electronics USA Inc. and Pioneer Corp. before the U.S. International Trade Commission.

The Supreme Court's ruling in *Bilski et al. v. Kappos* — the inventor's attempts to patent a business method for commodities trading, and the ruling's implications on other industries, particularly software — could end up being the watershed moment for IP litigation in the first decade of the 2000s, Finnegan partner Michael Morin told Law360.

"It was a big year for IP litigation, at least for our firm," Morin said. "I'm not sure that there is a specific reason I could put my finger on for that. Despite the fluctuation with the economy, people realized that intellectual property is even more of an important asset than it was before ... As the information age advances, people are realizing that it's the key to the castle for a lot of these companies."

The firm reeled in a \$400 million settlement for Abbott Laboratories and helped AstraZeneca Pharmaceuticals LP withstand challenges to its patent for its key antipsychotic Seroquel. In its ITC practice, Finnegan achieved rulings of noninfringement for Phicom's probe card assemblies and flash memory chips, LG Electronics's refrigerator door ice storage bins and Pioneer's automobile global positioning systems this year.

The firm also handles patent prosecution; transactions and counseling; and trademark, copyright and trade secrets work.

The logo for FINNEGAN, featuring the word "FINNEGAN" in a bold, green, sans-serif font.