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## Law360's Legal Lions Of The Week

By **Kevin Penton**

*Law360 (May 15, 2026, 4:33 PM EDT)* -- Pillsbury Winthrop Shaw Pittman LLP and Haynes Boone lead this week's edition of Law360 Legal Lions, after the U.S. Supreme Court ruled that federal courts that have sent disputes to arbitration have jurisdiction to confirm or vacate subsequent awards.

The high court on Thursday unanimously affirmed a Second Circuit decision enforcing an award issued in a discrimination case involving a former hotel employee at the Chateau Marmont, a West Hollywood hotel owned by Andre Balazs Properties.

Because a federal court in that scenario has jurisdiction over the original claims and does not lose that jurisdiction while the case is stayed pending arbitration, it retains jurisdiction to determine whether the arbitral award resolving those claims is valid and should be confirmed, the Supreme Court ruled.

Andre Balazs Properties is represented by Anne Voigts, Kenneth Taber, Zandir Morton, Natalie Truong and JoAnna Brooks of Pillsbury Winthrop Shaw Pittman LLP, and Daniel Geysler of Haynes Boone.

Clement & Murphy PLLC, the Law Firm for Truck Safety LLP and Brown & Crouppen PC triumphed after the Supreme Court said Thursday that freight brokers might also be liable under state law for selecting unsafe motor carriers that then get into highway crashes that kill or injure people, offering long-sought clarity on liability standards in a commercial trucking industry unnerved by supersized verdicts against carriers and drivers.

In a unanimous opinion, the justices reversed and remanded a Seventh Circuit decision that had shut down plaintiff Shawn Montgomery's claims alleging freight broker and logistics giant C.H. Robinson Worldwide Inc. negligently hired the motor carrier and driver involved in a crash that seriously injured him.

Montgomery is represented by Paul Clement, Harker Rhodes and Camilo Garcia of Clement & Murphy PLLC, Michael Leizerman and Rena Leizerman of the Law Firm for Truck Safety LLP, and Alan Pirtle of Brown & Crouppen PC.

Earthjustice roared after a Ninth Circuit panel determined Wednesday that the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency must revisit rulemaking on a flame retardant known as decaBDE, as the agency failed to adequately explain its past decisions declining to further regulate the chemical's disposal.

The Alaska Community Action on Toxics, the Yurok Tribe, the Consumer Federation of America and the

Center for Environmental Transformation are represented by Kelly Lester, Alana Reynolds and Katherine O'Brien of Earthjustice.

The American Civil Liberties Union makes this week's list after a divided Sixth Circuit panel ruled Monday that 11 noncitizens were improperly detained under the mandatory detention provision of the Immigration and Nationality Act, joining the Second and Eleventh circuits in holding that noncitizens arrested in the U.S. interior are entitled to bond hearings.

The noncitizens are represented by Miriam Aukerman, Michael Tan, Ramis Wadood, Judy Rabinovitz, Marty Berger, My Khanh Ngo, Oscar Sarabia Roman, Natalie Behr, Philip Mayor and Bonsitu Kitaba-Gaviglio of the American Civil Liberties Union.

Morgan Lewis & Bockius LLP and Kirkland & Ellis LLP succeeded after the Third Circuit on Tuesday declined to reinstate class claims made by a group of John Hancock customers from Illinois accusing Amazon Web Services Inc. and Pindrop Security Inc. of collecting consumers' voice data without their consent.

A three-judge panel ruled in a precedential opinion that Pindrop is considered a "financial institution" under that state's Biometric Information Protection Act and the federal Gramm-Leach-Bliley Act, which makes it exempt from privacy suits over biometric data collection. The panel also held that the lower court properly granted summary judgment in favor of Amazon, upholding its ruling that the plaintiffs failed to show that the company collected their data.

Amazon is represented by Elizabeth Herrington, Jody Barillare, Michael Kenneally, Ari Selman, Jordan McCrary and Kyle Nodes of Morgan Lewis & Bockius LLP. Pindrop is represented by Diana Torres, George Hicks Jr. and Andrew Bloomer of Kirkland & Ellis LLP.

Kline & Specter PC and Power Rogers LLP make this week's list after Illinois federal jurors on Wednesday awarded \$49.5 million to the family of a global health worker who died alongside 156 others when Ethiopian Airlines Flight ET 302 crashed within minutes of takeoff.

The jury deliberated for nearly two hours before determining that Boeing should pay \$21 million to crash victim Samya Stumo's family for her experience on the fatal flight, \$16.5 million for the family's loss of companionship, and \$12 million for the grief, sorrow and mental suffering her family has and will continue to experience because of her death.

Stumo's family is represented by Shanin Specter and Elizabeth Crawford of Kline & Specter PC, and Joseph Power Jr. of Power Rogers LLP.

Latham & Watkins LLP and Davis Polk & Wardwell LLP round out this week's pride, after artificial intelligence computing company Cerebras Systems Inc. on Wednesday raised roughly \$5.6 billion in its blockbuster initial public offering, the largest IPO this year.

The Latham team advising Cerebras includes Tad Freese, Sarah Axtell, Zuzanna Gruca, Chelsea Carlson, Julian Brody, Jessica Kerr, Tristan Schmoor, Taleah Tyrell, Will Sedgwick, Jay Metz, James Robinson, Grace Lee, Dennis Poehland, Jake Meninga, Morgan Brubaker, Michelle Gross, Ryan Clore, Caroline Toman Lammon, Amy Tosi, Zac Alpert, Joel Trotter, Alexander Cohen, William Hackett, Robert Koenig, Sara Almousa, Jewel Drigo, Jennifer Tian, Les Carnegie, Ruchi Gill, Aaron Amundson and Matthew Gregory.

The Davis Polk team advising the underwriters includes Alan Denenberg and Elizabeth LeBow.

--Additional reporting by Caroline Simson, Linda Chiem, Rachel Riley, Britain Eakin, P.J. D'Annunzio, Lauraann Wood and Jade Martinez-Pogue. Editing by Adam LoBelia.

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