



Lathrop Gage Obtains Summary Judgment in Patent Case

March 23, 2012

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (March 23, 2012) – Lathrop Gage attorneys Brian Fields (Business Litigation – Kansas City), J. Bradley Leitch (Business Litigation – Kansas City) and Jason Parks (Intellectual Property – Kansas City) recently obtained summary judgment on behalf of firm clients Vita Craft, Imura International and Mamoru Imura in the United States District Court for the District of Kansas in a patent case filed against the clients in March 2008.

The plaintiff alleged Vita Craft, Imura International and Mamoru Imura infringed its patent and that the firm's clients' patent was invalid. Lathrop Gage filed counterclaims to invalidate the plaintiff's three patents and denied infringement. Following both parties' summary judgment motions, the court invalidated 54 separate claims in plaintiff's three patents that the firm argued were unfounded. The court also found no infringement occurred and ruled that it had no jurisdiction to consider the plaintiff's argument that the firm's clients' patent was invalid.

Fields specializes in complex commercial litigation, intellectual property and products liability cases. Leitch focuses his practice in the areas of construction and complex commercial litigation, and is Martindale-Hubbell "AV" rated. Parks concentrates his practice on intellectual property related matters and was selected a Missouri/Kansas "Rising Star" in 2011 by *Super Lawyers*.

About Lathrop Gage LLP:

A full-service law firm, Lathrop Gage LLP has more than 320 attorneys in 11 offices nationwide – from Los Angeles to New York. In 2011, *Chambers USA* ranked Lathrop Gage's corporate, environmental, intellectual property, labor and employment, litigation, real estate and transportation teams among the best in their regions. For more information, visit www.lathropgage.com.