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NEWSLETTERS

Law360's Legal Lions Of The Week

By [Kevin Penton](#) · [Listen to article](#)

Law360 (February 6, 2026, 4:09 PM EST) -- [Knobbe Martens Olson & Bear LLP](#) leads this week's edition of Law360 Legal Lions, after a California federal jury ordered [Medtronic](#) to pay nearly \$382 million to business rival [Applied Medical Resources Corp.](#) for antitrust violations.

The jury received the case on [Thursday](#) and deliberated for less than two hours before finding the medical device giant illegally used its monopoly power to crush competition in the market for a type of surgical instrument called an advanced bipolar device.

Applied Medical is represented by Stephen Jensen, Adam Powell, Joseph Re, Joseph Jennings, Stephen Larson, Cheryl Burgess, Kendall Loebbaka, Nicholas Zovko, Justin Gillett and Ben Shiroma of Knobbe Martens.

[Shaw Keller LLP](#), [Morrison Foerster LLP](#), [Williams & Connolly LLP](#) and [Sullivan & Cromwell LLP](#) triumphed when [Moderna Inc.](#) was ordered on [Feb. 2](#) to face most of a rival mRNA vaccine developer's \$5 billion patent suit over the company's COVID-19 vaccines.

Drug developer [Arbutus Biopharma](#) and Genevant Sciences GmbH — which licenses Arbutus' patents — are represented by John Shaw, Karen Keller and Nathan Hoeschen of Shaw Keller.

Genevant is further represented by David Berl, Adam Harber, Thomas Fletcher, Shaun Mahaffy, Andrew Hoffman, Matthew Lachman, Ricardo Leyva, Arthur Argall III, Falicia Elenberg and Kathryn Larkin of Williams & Connolly, and Andrei Iancu and Jeffrey Wall of Sullivan & Cromwell.

Arbutus is further represented by Daralyn Durie, Kira Davis, David Tan, Adam Brausa, Eric Wiener and Shaelyn Dawson of Morrison Foerster.

[Girard Sharp LLP](#), [Peiffer Wolf Carr Kane Conway & Wise LLP](#) and [Chaffin Luhana LLP](#) roared after an Arizona federal jury on [Thursday](#) found that [Uber](#) was liable for the actions of a driver who allegedly sexually assaulted a passenger in 2023, awarding the rider \$8.5 million in damages in the first such federal bellwether trial.

The jury of six women and three men deliberated for about 12 hours over three days before finding that the driver was acting as the "apparent agent" of Uber, making the ride-sharing company liable for the sexual assault. The jury awarded \$8.5 million in compensatory damages, but declined to award punitive damages. The jury also found that Uber wasn't negligent with respect to rider safety.

Plaintiff Jaylynn Dean and the plaintiffs in multidistrict litigation are represented by co-lead counsel Sarah London of Girard Sharp, Rachel Abrams of Peiffer Wolf and Roopal Luhana of Chaffin Luhana.

[Butler Snow LLP](#) makes this week's list after [Teva Pharmaceuticals](#) won a complete defense verdict [Tuesday](#) in the first trial testing claims that the company failed to warn consumers that its Paragard IUD has a defect making

it prone to breakage inside patients' uteri.

Teva is represented by Christopher Morris, Pamela Ferrell, Shayna Cook, Rami Fakhouri, Bridget Wholey and Nia Vogel of Butler Snow.

[O'Melveny & Myers LLP](#) and [Barnes & Thornburg LLP](#) succeeded as a New Jersey federal judge on Feb. 2 [tossed](#) claims by a proposed class of consumers alleging that [Kenvue Inc.](#) and [Johnson & Johnson](#) hid the presence of a group of chemicals known as PFAS in Band-Aid products, saying the consumers hadn't shown that they were harmed.

J&J and Kenvue are represented by Hannah Chanoine, Nexus Sea, Matt Powers, Houman Ehsan, Andrew Weisberg, Craig McAllister, Daniel Lautzenheiser and Victoria Randall of O'Melveny & Myers, and Michael Zogby and Marquis Whitney of Barnes & Thornburg.

[Skadden Arps Slate Meagher & Flom LLP](#) and [Gibson Dunn & Crutcher LLP](#) round out this week's pride after [Devon Energy](#) and [Coterra Energy](#) announced on Feb. 2 their agreement to merge in an approximately [\\$58 billion](#) all-stock transaction, including debt.

The Skadden team advising Devon includes Steve Gill, Dohyun Kim, Mingda Zhao, Elizabeth Gonzalez-Sussman, Emery Choi, Erica Schohn, Joseph Penko, Michael Hong, Steven Messina, Trevor Allen and David Wales.

The Gibson Dunn team advising Coterra includes Tull Florey, Hillary Holmes, Andrew Kaplan, Rahul Vashi, Shalla Prichard, Krista Hanvey, Joshua Lipton, Gregory Nelson, Jonathan Sapp, John Curran, Mary Boci, Kyle Ezring, Hunter Michielson, Nathan Sauers and Alexander Merritt.

--Additional reporting by Craig Clough, Lauren Berg, Bonnie Eslinger, Kelcey Caulder, Emily Field and Al Barbarino. Editing by Robert Rudinger.

Update: This article has been updated with additional counsel.

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Jacob Taylor

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