

Litigator of the Week

Runners-Up And Shout Outs

By Ross Todd

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► Shout out to **Melanie Blunsch**, **Jason Hegt**, **Michele Johnson**, **Daniel Gherardi** and **Liz Cheng** of **Latham & Watkins** who knocked out a securities suit against client Apple Inc. initially filed on the eve of the company's 2023 annual shareholder meeting. U.S. District Judge Jennifer Rochon in Manhattan this week dismissed claims that the company violated Section 14(a) of the Exchange Act and its board members breached their fiduciary duties by giving top company executives, including CEO Tim Cook, "excess" compensation beyond what was disclosed in its proxy statement. Rochon, who granted Apple's motion to dismiss with prejudice, wrote that "Apple did precisely what Section 14(a) and SEC rules require—presented its compensation process and methods through detailed compensation tables." Blunsch argued the motion to dismiss for Apple.