

Jenner & Block Adds New Co-Chair To Its Media Practice

By Emily Lever

Law360 (February 10, 2021, 3:31 PM EST) -- Jenner & Block LLP has promoted one of its top intellectual property attorneys to co-chair of its media and entertainment practice, the firm said Wednesday.

Alison Stein, who was hired at Jenner & Block less than 10 years ago straight out of her post-law-school clerkships, will co-lead the practice — one of the firm's specialties — with Andy Bart and David Singer.

"We look forward to adding Alison's energy and creativity to the leadership of the practice," Bart said in a statement. "Her skills, drive, and demonstrated leadership, as well as the results she has achieved for her clients, will help to continue to expand the firm's stellar reputation in this space."

Stein's practice includes content moderation, copyright infringement, licensing deals and clearances, DMCA enforcement, trademark disputes, unfair competition and defamation.

"The firm is focused on looking for opportunities for the next generation. Now, it's my turn as a co chair to help the next generation coming after me," Stein told Law360.

Her goals as practice chair include cultivating a diverse team and firm and ensuring that associates coming up are offered courtroom and litigation experience, face time with clients and other paths to advancement.

"Technology is always one step ahead of the law and we rely on our associates to keep up with emerging technologies," Stein said. "They play a huge role in making us stay on top of an industry that is always changing."

"As a group we realize that diverse teams are critically important and often come out with greater results for clients," Stein said. "As a young associate, if you see diverse attorneys in leadership positions, that goes a long way."

Among notable cases Stein has handled, she represented Nintendo in copyright litigation over the Nintendo Switch, and she was part of a team that represented the estate of John Steinbeck's late wife in a dispute over the rights to film adaptations of the author's work. Stein has also provided counsel



Alison Stein

to Facebook, particularly in vetting potential board members for conflicts of interest.

Stein also represented the sister of a New York City street artist, Jason Wulf, who was electrocuted while he was painting in the subway system, to help her secure the rights to her late brother's art.

"She was so moved by the services that we were able to provide," Stein told Law360 in 2017. "It's what I love best: helping people create content but also helping them protect content and protect legacies."

More recently, Stein is currently representing Sarah Collins Rudolph, a survivor of the infamous 1963 Birmingham, AL church bombing, in legal matters related to her book, *The Fifth Little Girl: Soul Survivor of the 16th Street Baptist Church Bombing (The Sarah Collins Rudolph Story)*.

Looking forward to the state of the intellectual property field for 2021, Stein said the pandemic had seen a great deal of piracy, leading to a multiplication of enforcement actions. Another area sure to generate work for attorneys is Section 230 of the Communications Decency Act, which affects tech and media or content production clients alike.

"There is so much criticism of 230 coming from multiple directions, even with the change of administration there is going to be an effort for some sort of reform of Section 230," Stein said, adding that the case law is also evolving constantly even in the absence of regulatory reform. "Tech clients need to be very focused on that and think about how their content moderation policies can protect them."

Stein earned her law degree and her bachelor's degree from the University of Pennsylvania. She clerked for Judge Kent Jordan on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit and then Judge Kimba Wood in the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of New York. She started at Jenner & Block immediately afterward.

--Editing by Alyssa Miller.