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Sheppard Mullin Snags Fish & Richardson IP Litigator

By Megan Leonhardt

Law360, New York (October 18, 2011, 6:22 PM ET) -- Sheppard Mullin Richter & Hampton LLP announced Tuesday that it had bolstered its intellectual property practice with the addition of a former Fish & Richardson PC partner to its Palo Alto and San Francisco offices.

Nagendra "Nick" Setty has joined the firm as co-chair of Sheppard Mullin's intellectual property practice after almost six years with Fish & Richardson, where he was managing partner of that firm's Atlanta office.

With more than 20 years' experience in the practice area and more than 120 cases under his belt, Setty brings a broad range of patent litigation experience to Sheppard Mullin, the firm said.

"Nick is an extremely experienced, high-profile patent litigator," said Guy N. Halgren, chairman of Sheppard Mullin. "He brings a sophisticated patent litigation practice to our Palo Alto and San Francisco offices and strengthens our global IP capabilities."

Setty said the entrepreneurial nature of the position and the collegial culture at Sheppard Mullin made it a perfect fit for him.

"I look forward to helping Sheppard Mullin strengthen and build its growing reputation as a top-tier IP practice," Setty said. "It's clear to me that the firm is on the rise."

In January 2006, Setty opened Fish & Richardson's Atlanta office, which grew to 30 attorneys at the office's peak in 2009. Now, at Sheppard Mullin, Setty said he plans to grow the firm's presence both in Northern California and nationally.

"They wanted someone who could be a good leader," Setty said.

Setty, with a background in biology, focuses his practice on litigating patent, trademark, trade secrets and copyright cases in the software, telecommunications and electronics industries.

He has represented clients, including Siemens PLM Software Inc. and Samsung, in disputes over life cycle product management systems and flash memory technology.

"[Setty] is a leader with a history of building top-notch IP practices, and has 20 years of experience successfully litigating big-ticket patent disputes," said Stephen Korniczky, co-chair of Sheppard Mullin's intellectual property practice.

Setty is also regularly involved in cases over pharmaceutical and life science technologies, including his recent representation of Cipla Ltd. in a patent dispute over Frontline Plus, the blockbuster flea and tick repellent for pets.

Prior to his work with Fish & Richardson, Setty practiced at Jones Day for three years as a partner in the firm's intellectual property practice.

Setty graduated Emory University in 1987 with a bachelor's degree in biology before earning a diploma in international law from Emmanuel College at Cambridge University in 1990. He received his law degree from Emory University in 1992.

--Editing by Kat Laskowski.

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