

Pryor Cashman lures IP expert from White & Case

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Pryor Cashman has recruited an experienced intellectual property litigator who was previously with **White & Case**.

Dyan Finguerra-DuCharme, who comes to the New York office of Pryor Cashman as a partner, is both a seasoned litigator in the trademark and IP realm, and an accomplished author and speaker on IP topics. She has represented numerous clients from diverse industries before state, federal, and global agencies, and has won injunctions for them against trademark-infringing products. Her expertise in this area is widely sought after. Finguerra-DuCharme left White & Case in 2000 with nine colleagues to open the New York office of Boston-based firm **Hale and Dorr**, and stayed on during that firm's merger with **Wilmer Cutler & Pickering** in 2004. In May 2010, Finguerra-DuCharme returned to White & Case.

"To go to a place that has the depth of practice here, and the clients that Pryor Cashman already services, is wonderful and offers a nice complement to the industries I already have a foot in," Finguerra-DuCharme said.

Finguerra-DuCharme's latest move might be seen as part of a larger trend of attorneys moving from a huge global firm to a platform offering more flexibility to clients in terms of billing.

"Larger firms sometimes do not get the opportunity to bid for trademark work because the assumption is that they cannot compete with a mid-size firm or IP boutique. I believe that I will have more opportunities to compete for that work now that I'm at Pryor Cashman," she commented.

At present, a surge of IP litigation may be on the horizon as the markets take note of successful legal challenges to trademark infringers, as in the 2011 case *Louis Vuitton vs. Akanoc Solutions*. In that case, the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit upheld the fashion company's challenge to the hosts of trademark-infringing websites.

"Decisions over the past year may have opened some doors for brand owners with regard to protecting their trademarks. For example, the *Louis Vuitton vs. Akanoc Solutions* decision may offer new opportunities and better mechanisms for shutting down websites selling counterfeit or infringing products," Finguerra-DuCharme said.