

THE
AMERICAN LAWYERLatham Partners Move to Weil to Co-Lead IP
and Tech Litigation Practice

By Patrick Smith

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Three Latham & Watkins partners, including two who held leadership positions in its litigation and IP practices, are moving to Weil, Gotshal & Manges. The lateral partners include Doug Lumish and Jeff Homrig, who join Weil as co-heads of its IP, technology and science litigation practice, as well as partner Gabe Gross, Weil said Thursday.

Lumish and Gross will practice out of the firm's Silicon Valley office, while Homrig will operate out of Texas. They described their mission in moving to Weil as building "the best IP litigation team on the planet."

Lumish previously served as Latham's global vice chair of firm-wide litigation and trial department, while Homrig most recently was global vice chair of Latham's IP litigation practice and led its Texas IP practice.

It's a return home for Lumish and Homrig, both of whom practiced at Weil for a decade before moving to Kasowitz, Benson, Torres and Friedman and then to Latham.

"As a firm, we have always been at the forefront of patent and IP technology litigation," Weil



Courtesy photos

L-R: Doug Lumish, Jeff Homrig and Gabe Gross of Weil Gotshal & Manges.

executive partner Barry Wolf said in an interview. "And Doug and Jeff were a big part of that. Part of this is coming home, as we know them well and couldn't be happier. They understand our culture and how special it is. We view it as two family members coming home."

Lumish and Homrig had a similar assessment on the move.

"It is equal parts homecoming and new beginning," Lumish said. "I can't think of another opportunity to do both of those things in one move. This was an opportunity to come back to a

firm I love, and our mission is to build the best IP litigation team on the planet, and have fun while we do it.”

“I learned how to be a lawyer at Weil,” Homrig said. “I learned from the best, and that was really a North Star for my whole career. Weil puts excellence and teamwork first, and that is both very rare and appealing to me.”

Weil’s build-up in IP and litigation comes after the firm lost several litigators and IP lawyers in the last year to rivals, including a 20-person patent, litigation and life sciences [team to Paul Weiss](#).

The firm has also had a back-and-forth recruitment battle with Latham. It’s former co-head of restructuring, Ray Schrock, along with two other partners, [decamped to Latham last year](#). But earlier in the year, Weil recruited [two Latham private equity partners](#) when it opened its offices in Los Angeles and San Francisco.

Wolf has said that while the exits in practice leadership positions weren’t always ideal, the action created openings for the likes of Lumish and Homrig.

Lumish, Homrig, and Gross are all first-chair trial litigators, the firm said, with the former two having practiced together for 25 years and the latter with the duo for 15.

Lumish said the trio’s ability to work patent, IP and trademark aspects, as well as take those

issues to trial, if necessary, makes them unique. “There are a lot of litigators out there, but not a lot of trial lawyers,” Lumish said.

Lumish and Homrig declined to comment on whether their clients will be moving with them, but Wolf said that really wasn’t the point.

“We don’t buy books of business,” he said. “We look at the individual and their track record.”

Wolf also said he expects the presence of the trio to draw more top attorneys to the practice.

“I have no doubt with the three of them coming on board that there will be others who seek out to join us at the partner and associate level,” he said. “This is not just us adding three partners. There is something unique and special about building something.” According to Weil, the return of Lumish and Homrig marks the 12th and 13th attorneys to come back to the firm since the beginning of 2023.

In a statement, Latham wished the team well and noted they are “ramping up” for a second strong second half in IP.

“We thank them for their contributions and wish them the best as they return to their former firm. Our world-class intellectual property litigation practice has had a fantastic first half of the year, following tremendous results in 2024, and we are ramping up for a strong second half that will be just as—if not more—robust,” said Mike Morin, chair of Latham’s intellectual property litigation practice.