

# Daily Journal

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## TOP INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY LAWYERS 2025



**MICHELLE E. ARMOND**

ARMOND WILSON

NEWPORT BEACH

**M**ichelle E. Armond co-founded Armond Wilson in 2019 as an IP litigation boutique, and the six-attorney shop has since proved it can punch above its weight.

In 2024, the IP analytics agency Patexia Inc. rated Armond Wilson fourth nationally in patent office litigation among more than 900 firms. “They analyze five years of results, so this was the first year we were eligible,” Armond said. “We knew we were on a tear — I can’t think of a case we’ve lost at the

Patent Office — but this was great for us. And yes, we threw a party.”

Armond is busy and expects to be more so in 2025, given the current trade wars and business turmoil. “When there’s economic uncertainty, people like to dust off their patent portfolios and start suing each other,” she said. “That’s when IP cases spike, and I expect to see a lot of that this year.”

After graduating with honors in engineering from Caltech and obtaining a JD from UC Berkeley School of Law, Armond clerked for Judge Richard Linn of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit. Linn is now a senior judge.

“You’re working for the supreme court of patent law,” Armond said of her clerkship. “It’s weird to have a pinnacle of your career come so early. Judge Linn is the finest lawyer I’ve ever worked with, next to my law partner. Out in public, on the bench, or in chambers, he was always trying to do the right thing, and I absorbed that.”

Linn hired both Armond and her law partner, Douglas R. Wilson, to be his clerks from 2003 to 2005. “Years later, Doug and I got together again to launch Armond Wilson, so we give him credit: Judge Linn unintentionally founded our firm.”

Today, Armond Wilson’s client roster includes Advanced Micro Devices, Western Digital, Natera, Weatherford International, and Purdue University.

Armond represented Natera in defeating institution of high-stakes *inter partes* reviews challenging Natera’s revolutionary patent on cancer recurrence monitoring technology. *NeoGenomics Laboratories v. Natera Inc.*, IPR2024-00346 (Pat. Trial & Appeal Bd., filed Dec. 19, 2023). “We came on board to defend Natera when NeoGenomics challenged our groundbreaking and mission critical patent,” she said. Federal courts affirmed an injunction barring NeoGenomics from using its infringing rival product.

And, she and her colleagues obtained a permanent injunction barring another defendant from infringement of her client’s copyright and trademarks in a case over the defendants fraudulently impersonating a law enforcement equipment maker’s website. *Holosun Technologies v. Name-Silo et al.*, 2:23-cv-02138 (D. Ariz., filed Oct. 16, 2023).

“This is so much fun,” Armond said. “We had an idea when we started the firm that things would go well, and they did. Clients keep coming back.”