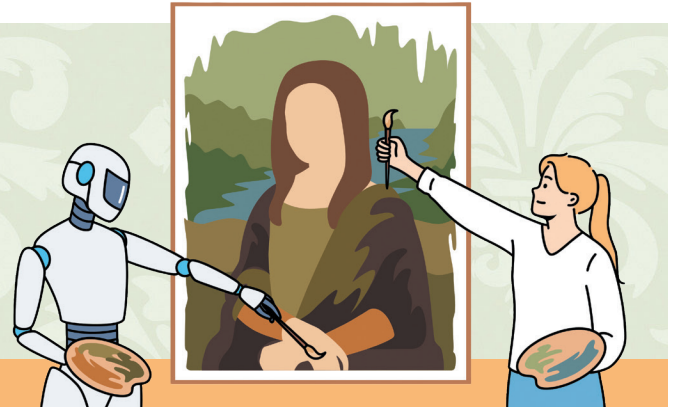


Daily Journal

MAY 20, 2026

TOP INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY LAWYERS 2026



HONORING TOP ATTORNEYS WORKING IN PATENT, TRADEMARK AND COPYRIGHT LAW



JOSEPH R. SAVERI

SAVERI LAW FIRM

SAN FRANCISCO

For Joseph Saveri, intellectual property law has always been about protecting creators.

"The most important draw was the need to protect authors and artists from having their work stolen without permission," he said. "Making sure their work is protected was very important to me. It still is."

Saveri has spent three decades building a reputation as one of the country's leading plaintiffs-side litigators, handling complex antitrust and intellectual property cases and securing more than \$5 billion in settlements

and resolutions. After years at Lief, Cabraser, Heimann & Bernstein, LLP, where he helped build a nationally recognized practice, he launched his own firm in 2012, focusing on high-impact, often precedent-setting litigation.

In recent years, that work has centered on artificial intelligence.

"The artificial intelligence copyright cases," he said, when asked about a favorite matter. "They are of profound importance to my clients as well as society more broadly."

Saveri and his firm have filed some of the first major U.S. class actions targeting generative AI, alleging that companies unlawfully used the work of artists, coders and authors in violation of copyright and other laws.

Recent cases include one in which developers allege their code was used without permission to train AI tools. *Doe 1 et al. v. GitHub, Inc.*, 4:22-cv-06823 (N.D. Cal., filed Nov. 3, 2022).

In a separate matter, artists claim their work was used to build image-generating systems without consent or compensation. Courts have allowed key claims in both cases to proceed, placing them at the center of a rapidly evolving legal landscape. *Andersen et*

al. v. Stability AI Ltd. et al., 3:23-cv-00201 (N.D. Cal., filed Jan. 13, 2023).

For Saveri, the appeal of the work lies in the stakes and the chance to lead groundbreaking litigation.

He is also direct about how clients should think about intellectual property disputes.

"It is not as complex as one might think," he said. "The technology may be complex, but the issues are relatively straightforward."

At the same time, he cautions against unrealistic expectations.

"Litigation can be a blunt object with unpredictable results," he said. "Clients need to understand what can be accomplished."

As artificial intelligence continues to reshape industries, Saveri sees the legal system playing a central role in defining the boundaries of innovation and ownership.

The questions at stake, he suggests, are not abstract. They go to whether creators will be compensated for their work in an era of machine learning.

Outside the courtroom, Saveri brings the same discipline to endurance sports, competing in Ironman triathlons.