

MVP: White & Case's Adam Acosta

By Jasmin Jackson

Law360 (September 27, 2022, 2:02 PM EDT) -- Adam Acosta of White & Case LLP's life sciences practice has guided various health care giants through high-stakes litigation, including helping client AbbVie Inc. escape two antitrust class actions over hypertension medication Bystolic, earning him a spot among Law360's 2022 Life Sciences MVPs.

HIS BIGGEST ACCOMPLISHMENT OVER THE PAST YEAR:

From October 2021 to January, Acosta helped client Boston Scientific Corp., formerly known as BTG International Inc., score a trio of dismissals in three suits accusing it of wrongfully delaying generic competition for cancer treatment Zytiga.

The suits — which were separately lodged by a False Claims Act plaintiff, direct-purchaser antitrust plaintiffs and indirect-purchaser antitrust plaintiffs — also named Johnson & Johnson pharmaceutical unit Janssen Biotech Inc. and affiliates as defendants. Acosta said his client was notably the only one "dismissed in all three of those suits."

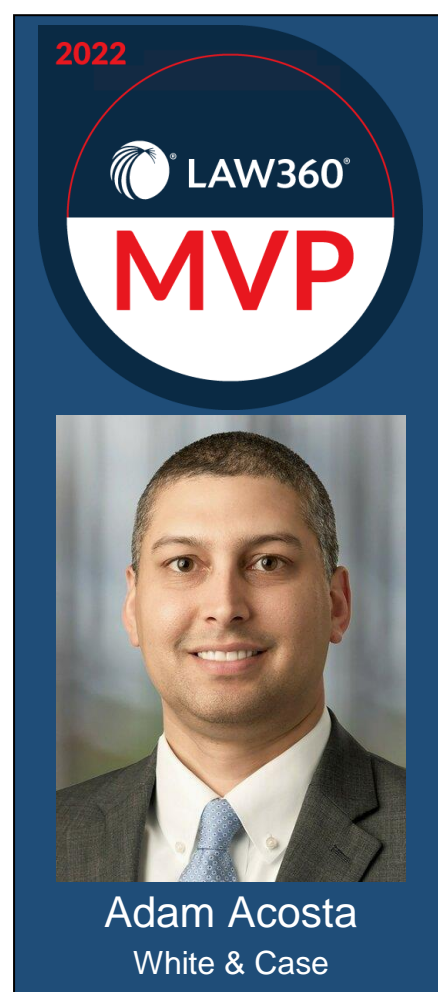
"Those dismissals were each based on different legal arguments, so obtaining such a clean sweep early in the case is pretty rare," he noted. "Having to tailor and customize our legal arguments to each plaintiff group and set of allegations was really critical and ultimately led to the three dismissals."

HIS PROUDEST MOMENT IN THE LAST YEAR:

In January, Acosta also successfully crafted two dismissal motions for client AbbVie Inc. in two nationwide class actions lodged by direct and indirect purchasers of hypertension medication Bystolic that accused AbbVie of delaying generic competition.

According to the White & Case partner, obtaining those two dismissals, on top of the three earned for Boston Scientific, was one of his proudest achievements.

"It was just an absolute privilege to be able to work with two different litigation teams at White & Case," Acosta said. "I think it's a great example of the sort of experience and depth of our antitrust practice."



HIS BIGGEST CHALLENGE IN THE PAST YEAR:

Aside from "securing some of those great results for the clients," Acosta also served as president of the Hispanic Bar Association of the District of Columbia for a year, saying "it was probably the busiest year of my professional life."

"Just juggling all those responsibilities was challenging, but you quickly learn and adapt," he said. "I think the hard work and persistence has definitely paid off in many ways."

WHY HE'S A LIFE SCIENCES ATTORNEY:

Acosta said his practice area provides "very exciting and intellectually stimulating work," adding that the subject matter is "dynamic and interesting."

"In the life sciences field, my focus is on representing innovator companies that are providing life-saving and transformative treatments," Acosta said. "You want to do everything that you can to support those efforts."

— *As told to Jasmin Jackson.*

Law360's MVPs of the Year are attorneys who have distinguished themselves from their peers over the past year through high-stakes litigation, record-breaking deals, and complex global matters. A team of Law360 editors selected the 2022 MVP winners after reviewing more than 900 submissions.

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