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Ehler describes her practice as sitting at the intersection of the entertainment industry and technology as the two fields evolve together. She especially enjoys working “at the cutting edge of applying copyright law to changes in technology,” she said.

One aspect of those changes has fueled much of her litigation activity. “You always have pirates ... with new, creative arguments and loopholes as to why a copy’s not a copy,” she said. Often, Ehler’s job is to prove those pirates wrong.

For instance, she represented a coalition of major studios last year to shut down a streaming service that pirated and resold live and on-demand broadcasts. Three months after Ehler sued, the defendants admitted fault and stipulated to a judgment of \$40 million and a permanent injunction. *Disney Enterprises Inc. v. TTKN Enterprises LLC*, 2:20-cv-7274 (C.D. Cal., filed Aug 12, 2020)

“I feel very strongly that my clients do great work and are forces for good in the world,” she said. “So when somebody tries to steal [their work], I have no problem ensuring that the law stops them from doing so.”

She led similar litigation for the studios against a company that captured channels and streams, recoded them and distributed them to other companies to sell to consumers. The company initially offered a defense, so it took Ehler nine months to win an injunction and a \$50 million award for her clients. *Paramount Pictures Corp. v. Omniverse One*

World Television Inc., 2:19-cv-01156 (C.D. Cal., filed Feb. 14, 2019)

Currently, she is litigating against a “stream-ripping” company called Yout whose technology Ehler says evades YouTube’s “rolling cipher” system to safeguard its videos. The company first sought a declaratory judgment. Ehler moved to dismiss by contending Yout is violating the anti-circumvention provisions of the Digital Millennium Copyright Act. *Yout LLC v. Recording Industry Association of America Inc.*, 3:20-cv-01602 (D. Conn., filed Oct. 25, 2020)

Another technology and copyright matter involves fire safety standards rather than movies or television. The question is whether private standards-setting organizations retain copyright protection when government bodies incorporate their standards by reference into federal law. The opposing party is an organization that digitizes and publishes government materials. *American Society for Testing and Materials v. Public.Resource.org Inc.*, 1:13-cv-01215 (D. D.C., filed Aug 06, 2013)

“It’s a fascinating case [that raises] some nuanced copyright law,” she said.

In a pro bono matter with Munger Tolles’ Combatting Systemic Racism Task Force, Ehler represents the ACLU of Northern California in a lawsuit calling on the Fresno County sheriff’s office to release records of sheriff deputies’ use of force, discharge of firearms, sexual assault and dishonesty per a new state law.

— Don DeBenedictis



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LOS ANGELES

ENTERTAINMENT,
TECHNOLOGY LITIGATION

AGE: 36