

MVP: Williams & Connolly's Enu A. Mainigi

By Adam Lidgett

Law360 (September 27, 2021, 4:18 PM EDT) -- Williams & Connolly LLP's Enu A. Mainigi successfully represented CVS Pharmacy Inc. on claims by multiple classes of insured drug buyers that the pharmacy chain overcharged them by more than \$121 million for generic drugs, helping earn her a spot as one of Law360's 2021 Health Care MVPs.

HER BIGGEST ACCOMPLISHMENT THIS PAST YEAR:

After deliberating for less than a day, a unanimous jury in late June cleared CVS of allegations brought by insured drug buyers from six states that the national pharmacy chain unfairly overcharged them for prescriptions under the company's now-defunct nationwide discount program called Health Savings Pass.

Mainigi represented CVS in the case, which she said was hard-fought for many years.

"That was a very gratifying result," she said of the case, which is currently on appeal. "It was extremely gratifying to have a client that basically had the courage to take a certified class action in the Northern District of California, which is known to be a more plaintiff-friendly jurisdiction, and to allow that to go to trial."

HER BIGGEST CHALLENGE OF THE YEAR:

Beyond the CVS case, Mainigi said she represented Cardinal Health in an opioid-crisis trial where West Virginia communities said vast sales of narcotic painkillers are an obvious explanation for vast numbers of deaths. The case is still awaiting a decision.

Mainigi was litigating both cases around the same time, which also was about the time that courts were opening up after being closed for COVID-19-related reasons, she said.

She said every court wanted to get going right away when a sizable part of the population became vaccinated.

"Navigating two trials happening at the same time was difficult, but I had two amazing teams supporting me in both," she said.



WHY SHE IS A HEALTH CARE ATTORNEY:

"I think like most people initially in the late '90s, I just kind of fell into it as an area that had a lot of interesting things happening in it," Mainigi said. "There were a lot of government investigations, then a lot of follow-on litigation that was happening in that world."

Mainigi said she came to love the complexity of health care law and the interrelationships and juxtaposition of what was happening at the state and federal level in terms of laws.

WHAT MOTIVATES HER:

Mainigi said she likes to make sure her clients are in the right place, and that she loves putting together strategies to help them get there.

"I think in the health care world in particular ... there are a lot of different moving parts and a lot of complexity you have to take into account, and I love putting the pieces of that puzzle together into a refined strategy," she said.

— As told to Adam Lidgett. Editing by Bruce Goldman.

Law360's MVPs 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 2021 MVP winners after reviewing nearly 900 submissions.