

A Generation of Patent Litigation

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This study follows up on *Patent Troll Myths* by selecting a random, matching set of patent litigation dating back to 1985. By comparing the litigation, patents, and initial patentees of the most litigious NPEs with a sample of non-NPE litigants, the paper seeks to answer several fundamental questions. Is NPE litigation less successful? Are NPE patents invalidated more often? Do NPEs settle more often or earlier? Are patent quality metrics associated with outcome? These questions, and more, can be illuminated by a long term study of patent litigation that is currently unavailable in part due to the complexity of tracking litigation as it is transferred and consolidated among districts.

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