

Mixed verdict in Samsung-Apple patent trial
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By Elizabeth Zachariah

Jurors yesterday ordered Samsung to pay just a fraction of the big-money damages sought by Apple in a high-stakes Silicon Valley case over smartphone patents.

Jurors found that Samsung violated some patents and ruled that the South Korean consumer electronics giant should pay US\$119.6 million (RM390 million) in damages.

The jury also found credence in counter-claims by Samsung and said in its verdict that Apple should pay its rival US\$158,400 in damages.

Apple's legal team had urged jurors to order the South Korean electronics giant to pay more than US\$2 billion in damages for flagrantly copying iPhone features.

Meanwhile, Samsung lawyers maintained that the legal onslaught is the result of a "holy war" Apple declared on Google-made Android software used to power smartphones.

In August 2012, a separate jury in the same court decided that Samsung should pay Apple US\$1.049 billion in damages for illegally copying iPhone and iPad features, in one of the biggest patent cases in decades.

The damage award was later trimmed to US\$929 million and is being appealed. – AFP, May 3, 2014.

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