



Antitrust/Competition

Winston's Antitrust/Competition attorneys help clients in myriad industries resolve their most complex problems. Regularly handling issues of every size and scope, our internationally renowned lawyers offer comprehensive services, including advice and representation related to global cartel defense, civil and criminal litigation, government investigations, mergers and acquisitions, and regulatory counseling and compliance.

Key Contacts

[Eva Cole](#)

[Jim Herbison](#)

Areas of Focus

Antitrust Litigation

We have decades of experience representing clients in government and private antitrust litigation, often coordinating defenses across jurisdictions and with parallel government investigations. Our cases encompass a wide range of antitrust issues, including market-allocation, price-fixing, output-restrictions, labor markets issues (e.g., no-poach and wage-fixing claims), as well as claims of unfair competition, unfair trade practices, and Lanham Act violations.

We represent both plaintiffs and defendants in private antitrust litigation, handling matters that involve contract-related competition issues, tort-based claims, the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act (FCPA), the False Claims Act (FCA), securities and Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations Act (RICO) claims, sports, and distribution and franchising issues, as well as *qui tam* litigation. Many of our patent litigations also involve antitrust claims. We have handled a wide range of intellectual property (IP) rights-related antitrust matters, including in the computer, monoclonal antibody, medical device, automotive, pharmaceutical, agribusiness, biotech, consumer electronics, defense, entertainment, and publishing industries.

Given our extensive experience with, and the growing prevalence of, antitrust claims linked to IP law and technology and the increased focus of authorities in the United States and abroad on combatting anticompetitive behavior in the technology sector, we recently launched a multidisciplinary [Technology Antitrust Group](#) to serve clients' needs in this area of convergence.

Cartel Defense

We offer clients a preeminent global cartel-defense practice that has been recognized by *Chambers USA*, *Benchmark Litigation US*, and *Global Competition Review*. Our extensive experience with leniency programs in the United States, European Union, and elsewhere has earned us the trust of large multinational corporations, closely held companies, and key executives facing cartel matters. We are handling some of the largest cartel investigations and related private litigation in the world today. We have defended companies involved in international cartel investigations from the inception of enforcers' push into this arena. We regularly handle major international cartel matters, often involving the threat of significant criminal fines and incarcerations. Many of these cases also involve multi-district litigation and class actions brought by direct-purchaser and indirect-purchaser plaintiffs with billions of dollars in alleged damages, as well as direct-action, opt-out, and state attorney general matters.

Our cartel-defense clients include both corporations and individuals from the United States, Asia, South America, and Europe. We are well versed in dealing with cross-cultural issues and helping non-U.S. clients understand and comply with U.S. legal obligations. As U.S. and other antitrust authorities have continued to increase resources devoted to price-fixing and international cartel investigations—and intergovernmental cooperation has grown in the form of information sharing, coordinated investigations, and even extradition—cartel enforcement has become increasingly globalized. We have extensive experience handling multijurisdictional cartel matters, working closely with a network of local professionals to defend and resolve the most complex and extensive global cartel investigations and associated private actions.

Antitrust Transactions

We routinely handle all aspects of the merger-review and antitrust-clearance process, from international filings on multi-billion-dollar mergers to third-party complaints to facilitating the divestitures as needed. We can handle all competition-law aspects of a transaction, including not only the competition issues associated with obtaining regulatory clearances, but also antitrust advice during integration planning and antitrust risk allocation.

[Learn More](#)

Compliance & Counseling

An ounce of antitrust prevention is worth millions in litigation costs. We help clients avoid those costs with counseling to navigate the complex area of antitrust law, proactively identifying and mitigating risks before they escalate into legal issues and planning ahead to pave the way for clearance of their most critical strategic transactions. These areas include IP issues; exclusive-dealing, tying, and monopolization practices; relationships with suppliers; distribution issues, including Robinson-Patman Act compliance and minimum-advertised-price programs; employment issues to minimize the risk of no-poach and wage-fixing liability; relationship issues with competitors, trade associations, and industry groups; the formation and operation of joint ventures; and merger planning.

With antitrust agencies worldwide focusing on compliance programming, our extensive experience enables us to create or update compliance programs specifically tailored to a company's individual risk profile. We provide customized on-site antitrust training, continuing legal education antitrust seminars, audits, antitrust manuals and guidelines, and computer training materials. We are well equipped to review compliance programming and advise on restructuring to align with the most current guidelines and expectations. By partnering with us, clients can proactively address antitrust risks, foster a culture of compliance, and safeguard their business interests in an ever-evolving legal landscape.

Government Investigations

Aggressive enforcement of competition law has led to a surge in investigations by the Federal Trade Commission, Department of Justice, state attorneys general, and numerous other government agencies into a broad range of practices, including conduct related to cartels and mergers and acquisitions, as well as employment, standard-setting, patent settlements, marketing and distribution practices, joint ventures, and alliances.

We have significant experience with every aspect of government investigations, helping clients across sectors safely navigate the challenges arising from these inquiries.

European Competition & Regulatory Advice

We have deep experience advising both private and governmental entities on European state-aid clearances, analyzing state-aid aspects of proposed projects, and responding to alleged breaches of state-aid rules. We are routinely involved in leading cases at both the European and national levels. We represent clients before the European Commission and the European community and national courts as to the provision and recovery of state aid.

We provide competition and regulatory counseling for all corporate transactions, including mergers and acquisitions and joint ventures. We regularly obtain EU Merger Regulation clearances and coordinate multijurisdictional notifications. Through our global offices and strong relationships with trusted local counsel, we provide clients with seamless, integrated service. We advise on feasibility assessments and merger-control arbitrage for interested third parties on likely merger-control outcomes.

Asia Competition & Antitrust Counseling

We also have deep experience advising multinational companies on merger reviews, government investigations, and litigation in Asian jurisdictions, including China, Japan, Korea, and Taiwan. Our team of lawyers is actively involved in leading merger and cartel cases and investigations. While many of these cases parallel related actions in the United States, EU, and elsewhere, we excel at collaborating effectively across jurisdictions to ensure an efficient and consistent global approach.

“ Because of Winston’s outstanding trial practice, their antitrust team is an integrated one with tremendous antitrust experience combined with outstanding trial and appellate expertise. ”

Client Quote – *The Legal 500 US 2024*

Related Capabilities

Antitrust Transactions	Class Actions & Group Litigation		
eDiscovery & Information Governance	Technology Antitrust	Financial Services	
Health Care	Life Sciences	Sports	Technology, Media & Telecommunications

Recent Experience

Winston Scores Decisive Victory in Case Against Nation’s Largest Credit Reporting and Scoring Companies

Fueling Good: Winston Wins Motion to Dismiss in Oil Dispute

Secured Another Massive Summary Judgment Victory in Chickens Price-Fixing Case for Claxton Poultry Farms

Won Important Dismissal of Sherman Act Claims Against Actors’ Equity on Statutory Labor Exemption Grounds

Triumphed for Relevant Sports Before Second Circuit, Reviving Antitrust Suit Against FIFA, USSF

Secured High-Profile Fifth Circuit Dismissal for Avanci of Closely Watched Technology-Antitrust Case

RLH Equity Partners and the Equityholders of ClearView Healthcare Partners Sale to GHO Capital Partners

GenNx360’s Majority Investment in Whitsons Culinary Group

Frontenac Co. Sale of Whitebridge Pet Brands to NXMH, a Belgium-based Family-owned Investment Firm

Resources

[Competition Corner](#)

Baby HSR



SURVEY OF STATE TRANSACTION NOTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS

A comprehensive overview of laws throughout the U.S.

Related Insights & News

IN THE MEDIA

Conor Reidy Discusses New Antitrust Law in Washington State with *Private Funds CFO*

JUNE 25, 2025

RECOGNITIONS

Winston Partners Featured on *Bloomberg Law's* Inaugural List of Unrivaled Trial Lawyers

JUNE 25, 2025

BLOG

Enforcers Provide Guidance and Warnings for In-House Antitrust Lawyers at CLA Summit

JUNE 18, 2025

RECOGNITIONS

Winston & Strawn Recognized in *The Legal 500 U.S.* 2025

JUNE 12, 2025

IN THE MEDIA

Landmark Antitrust Class Action Settlement for College Athletes Receives Final Approval

JUNE 10, 2025

PRESS RELEASE

Professional Swimmers May Be Eligible for Money Damages From a Class Action Lawsuit Going to Trial in January 2026

JUNE 9, 2025

RECOGNITIONS

Susannah Torpey Named to *Global Competition Review's* 2025 Women in Antitrust List

MAY 30, 2025

SEMINAR/CLE

Antitrust Settlements, Remedies & Sentencings, A Fireside Chat with DOJ

MAY 20, 2025

BLOG

The New Antitrust Frontier: How the “Most-Favored Nation” (MFN) Executive Order Targets Drug Pricing Power

MAY 16, 2025

RECOGNITIONS

Winston Partners Featured on the 2025 *Lawdragon* 500 Leading Global Cyber Lawyers 2025

MAY 7, 2025

BLOG

Washington State Enacts a Broad Premerger Notification Requirement for All Industries

MAY 2, 2025

BLOG

From Pricing to Platforms: What Shifting U.S. Antitrust Enforcement Means for Retail and Consumer-Facing Businesses

MAY 1, 2025