

GCR

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DC's antitrust bar

Washington, DC, is the world's most competitive and high-profile antitrust law market. In the largest survey ever published in *GCR*, **Harry Phillips** and **Pallavi Guniganti** outline the practices that offer the most innovative and complete legal work in the District

Welcome to the world's most competitive competition law market.

Brussels has ten-figure fines. San Francisco has international cartels. Antitrust lawyers in New York work on lawsuits that fill the front pages of the *Wall Street Journal* and deals that shake industries to the core. Washington, DC, has all of that, and more.

Lawyers in the city where antitrust was invented lobby people who matter – on Capitol Hill and in the federal bureaucracy – on behalf of their clients. They make law in the highest court in the land. And they spend perhaps as much time trying to knock down deals as they do ushering them past the US antitrust agencies, the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) and Department of Justice (DoJ).

That all adds up to a lot of work. And a lot of lawyers.

Our survey of antitrust law practices in the nation's capital includes more than 40 firms – the largest bar survey *GCR* has ever attempted. This is indicative not just of the importance that sophisticated law firms see in having a strong antitrust presence in the District of Columbia, but also of the likely unparalleled quality of work being done there.

Glancing back at our first survey, in 2008, it was large DC regulatory shops such as Arnold & Porter, Hogan & Hartson, and Wilmer Cutler Pickering Hale and Dorr which rubbed shoulders with out-of-towners Cleary Gottlieb and Jones Day at the top of our rankings.

Today, these firms remain among the very best, but quality has become concentrated at the top.

Firms from New York and California with surging M&A practices have been stealing market share – witness Simpson Thacher & Bartlett's meteoric rise in DC. And this means competition – for the most exciting litigations, for cartel cases that will provide follow-on work for years to come and for the trickiest corporate tie-ups. It also means fierce competition for the best government talent.

To incorporate this volume of work and rivalry, *GCR* has taken a cue from its recent Brussels survey and included an "Outstanding" category for antitrust teams whose size, client base and sophistication would place them right at the top of less competitive markets.

Unlike Brussels, though, there is no oligopoly of practices in Washington, DC. Any one of our "Outstanding" firms could be in the "Elite" the next time *GCR* surveys the market. At the same time, the new category does not devalue the usual "Highly recommended" and "Recommended" rankings. These firms serve the world's major companies and house some of the very best antitrust practitioners. What we look for in the "Elite" category, however, are firms that, in the spring of 2015, field a truly balanced practice in the nation's capital, doing varied work of the highest quality. These firms are balanced across the generations, in terms of industries served, and across the three pillars of US antitrust practice: government investigations, private litigation and merger control.

With strong, at times aggressive, enforcement from the DoJ and the FTC, an active plaintiffs' bar,

and a flood of deal work from a variety of industries, almost every one of the 43 firms in our survey claims to be working harder than ever.

Elite

That five of the six antitrust partners at **Cleary Gottlieb Steen & Hamilton** are nominated to *Who's Who Legal: Competition* is surely a sign of the esteem in which competitors hold this multi-generational practice. A team that includes George Cary, Mark Leddy, Leah Brannon and Jeremy Calsyn is in a league of its own, rivals say. Its lawyers have their pick of work, whether in deals, litigation or criminal investigations, and a powerhouse of two counsel, four senior associates and 36 associates to support them.

On deal work alone, Cary says, the past 12 months have been "off the charts". The former FTC man personally handled seven second requests, three of which landed at the door of client GlaxoSmithKline in relation to its three-part drug deal with Novartis, named "Matter of the Year" at the 2015 GCR awards. Mark Nelson was dusting off the final clearances for Lafarge's US\$44 billion

merger with Holcim at the time of writing, while partner Brian Byrne advised Family Dollar on two second requests: one in relation to its agreed tie-up with Dollar Tree and one for a hostile offer from Dollar General.

Yet mergers are only part of the story. Each partner also defends multinationals in criminal investigations, in litigation around the United States, or both. Cleary lawyers are working for HSBC, Citibank and one other major investment bank in the DoJ's foreign-exchange-rate probe, and at least three auto-parts makers in the antitrust division's sprawling investigation. In the courtroom, Cary racked up favourable decisions for travel listings company Sabre, online booking company Travelocity and drug maker Sanofi in a loyalty discounting case. Meanwhile, Brannon, a former Supreme Court clerk, Harvard teaching fellow and a real star of the bar, helped coffee machine maker Keurig defeat an injunction that would have forced it to stall the launch of a new product line.

FIRM	HEAD(S) OF COMPETITION	SIZE	WHO'S WHO LEGAL NOMINEES	CLIENTS
ELITE				
Cleary Gottlieb Steen & Hamilton	–	6 partners 2 counsel 4 senior associates 36 associates	Leah Brannon Jeremy J Calsyn George S Cary Mark Leddy Mark W Nelson	ArcelorMittal, Citigroup, Coca-Cola, Deutsche Telekom, Dow Chemical, Google, HarperCollins, HSBC, IMS, Medtronic, News Corporation, Whirlpool
Covington & Burling	Thomas Barnett Deborah Garza	22 partners 3 counsel 15 associates	Thomas O Barnett Deborah A Garza Theodore Voorhees Jr Alan M Wiseman	AstraZeneca, Facebook, Citigroup, Expedia, ExxonMobil, Graco, JPMorgan Chase, Lucasfilm, Pixar, Mitsubishi, NFL, Salix, Samsung, Shire, Disney
Jones Day	David Wales	18 partners 2 counsel 18 associates	Kathryn M Fenton Phillip A Proger Joe Sims David P Wales	American Airlines, Bayer, Cardinal Health, CommScope, Deutsche Bank, General Electric, Kraft Foods, Lab Corp, Macy's, Procter & Gamble, The Carlyle Group
Latham & Watkins	Michael Egge	9 partners 1 counsel 22 associates	Michael G Egge Abbott 'Tad' B Lipsky Jr Margaret M Zwisler	Actavis, Coca-Cola Enterprises, Cox Communications, Georgia-Pacific, Highmark, KKR, Nestlé, Orbitz, Singapore Airlines, Time Warner Cable, Toshiba
OUTSTANDING				
Arnold & Porter	Jonathan Gleklen	19 partners 6 counsel 32 associates	Jonathan Gleklen Richard L Rosen	AT&T, BP, Datel, General Electric, Philip Morris, PNY Technologies, Toyota, VeriSign, Visa
Baker Botts	Sean Boland and John Taladay	15 partners 5 counsel 19 associates	Sean FX Boland Christopher J MacAvoy, James F Rill John Taladay	Philips Electronics, Halliburton, McWane, Liberty Media, Caterpillar, National Oilwell Varco, Dresser-Rand, Eaton, Merck
Dechert	Paul Denis	6 partners 4 associates	Paul T Denis Paul H Friedman	American Airlines, Albertsons, CVS Health, Dean Foods, General Electric, Gordon Food Service, OfficeMax

Americas

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Gibson Dunn & Crutcher	Scott Hammond	16 partners 3 counsel 10 associates	D Jarrett Arp Joseph Kattan	Aetna, AT&T, HP, Intel, McDonald's, National Association of Broadcasters, Sony Music, Tenet Healthcare Corporation
Hogan Lovells	Janet McDavid	12 partners 2 counsel 13 associates	Joseph G Krauss Janet L McDavid J Robert Robertson	3M, Alstom, Credit Suisse, Daiichi Sankyo, Daimler AG, Ford, Google, IBM, News Corp, Orbital Sciences, PPG, Suncor, Verizon, ZTE
O'Melveny & Myers	Richard Parker	8 partners 6 counsel 10 associates	Richard G Parker	Asiana Airlines, Bumble Bee Foods, Deutsche Telekom, Honeywell, Quest Diagnostics, Samsung, Sysco
Simpson Thacher & Bartlett	Matthew Reilly	3 partners 2 counsel 14 associates	–	Apple, DirecTV, Dollar General, HCA, Holcim, Lorillard, Office Depot, Morgan Stanley, US Foods
Skadden Arps Slate Meagher & Flom	Steven Sunshine	4 partners 3 counsel 14 associates	John M Nannes Steven C Sunshine	Actavis, Bausch & Lomb, Cobham, Exelon, Glencore Xstrata, Mediscis, Merck, Norfolk Southern, SanDisk, Sprint, Valeant
Weil Gotshal & Manges	Steven Newborn	8 partners 3 counsel 2 associates	Ann Malester Steven A Newborn	AbbVie, Apple, Allergan, Biomet, Estee Lauder, Exxon Mobil, Johnson & Johnson, H&R Block, PepsiCo, Sherwin Williams
Wilmer Cutler Pickering Hale and Dorr	Thomas Mueller	10 partners 21 senior associates 26 associates	James W Lowe Thomas Mueller Hartmut Schneider	Baker Hughes, Cephalon, Chesapeake Energy Corporation, Danaher, DENSO, Nissin, Schaeffler, Regal, Statoil
Wilson Sonsini Goodrich & Rosati	Susan Creighton	7 partners 5 counsel 14 associates	Susan Creighton Mark Rosman Scott A Sher	Advent, Dolby, Google, Hitachi Chemical, Mylan, Netgear, Pharmacyclics, T-Mobile, TrueCar, Seagate, SolarCity, Twitter, Trulia
HIGHLY RECOMMENDED				
Axinn Veltrop & Harkrider	John Briggs	4 partners 1 counsel 4 associates	John DeQ Briggs	Ball Corporation, Google, Independence Blue Cross, 3M, Black & Decker, Cegecim, Thermo Fisher, Yardi
Cadwalader Wickersham & Taft	Rick Rule	6 partners 3 counsel 9 associates	Charles F (Rick) Rule	Aer Lingus, AB InBev, Eli Lilly, Nestle, Microsoft, Royal Bank of Scotland, Salix, US Airways
Crowell & Moring	Randolph Smith	15 partners 7 counsel 20 associates	Wm Randolph Smith	AT&T, Blue Cross Blue Shield, Carefusion, CSX, DuPont, Motorola Mobility, RD Amross, Siemens, Target
Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer	Paul Yde	4 partners 3 counsel 12 associates	Terry Calvani Thomas Ensign Robert Schlossberg Paul Yde	Bank of America, Continental AG, Johnson & Johnson, Pearson, PepsiCo, Daimler, Emirates, Siemens
Hunton & Williams	Bruce Hoffman	10 partners 4 counsel 12 associates	D Bruce Hoffman	Chevron, Georgia-Pacific, BCBS of Michigan, Raytheon, Delhaize, Sodexo, Diageo, The Scotts Co, SCI, Insight Equity
Kirkland & Ellis	–	28 partners 5 counsel 8 associates	Mark L Kovner Tim Muris	3G Capital Partners, Abbott Laboratories, Bain Capital, Boeing, BP, Delta Air Lines, Danaher, Infineon, Leap Wireless

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McDermott Will & Emery	Joe Winterscheid	10 partners 9 associates	Raymond A Jacobsen Jr Joseph F Winterscheid	Amgen, Chesapeake Partners, Greyhound Lines, Lockheed Martin, Mars, ProMedica Health System, UnderArmour
Morgan Lewis & Bockius	Leiv Blad	9 partners 2 counsel 6 associates	Ted Henneberry	Ardent Mills, Google, Intel, Lupin, Merck, Mylan, Perrigo, Pfizer, Ranbaxy, TDK, Verso Paper
Morrison & Foerster	Stephen Smith	8 partners 2 counsel 14 associates	Roxann E Henry David L Meyer W Stephen Smith	Amadeus, AirTran, Arbitron, Autodesk, Fujitsu, Intel, JP Morgan Chase, Panasonic, SoftBank, UPS
White & Case	Mark Gidley	10 partners 8 counsel 32 associates	J Mark Gidley	Actavis (Warner Chilcott/Forest), Boehringer Ingelheim, CertainTeed, Comex, Paddock, Par, NEC, Toshiba, Upsher-Smith
RECOMMENDED				
Allen & Overy	Elaine Johnston (New York)	2 partners 6 associates	–	Accenture, BNP Paribas, Bayer, Cargill, United Airlines, HSBC, Mercuria, Procter & Gamble, Robert Bosch Group, Solvay
Baker Hostetler	Robert Abrams	10 partners 3 counsel 7 associates	–	NYK, Nippon Cargo, Yusen, MAHLE, Deseret News, Caterpillar, Commonwealth Brands, Makita, plaintiff dairy farmers
Baker & McKenzie	Lee Van Voorhis	2 partners 1 counsel 2 associates	–	Dai-ichi Life Insurance, JP Morgan Chase, Keurig Green Mountain, Knaf Insulation, Phoebe Putney, Stericycle
Boies Schiller & Flexner	–	–	James P Denvir III William A Isaacson	American Express, Apple, Barclays, Cogent Communications, Delta Airlines, SolarCity, Ultimate Fighting Championship
Cooley	Howard Morse	3 partners 2 counsel 9 associates	M Howard Morse Marc G Schildkraut	Bertelsmann, Johnson Controls, Meredith Corporation, Move Inc, NetScout, Par Petroleum, Qualcomm, SpaceX, Stratasys
Davis Polk & Wardwell	Michael Sohn	1 partners 1 counsel 3 associates	Michael N Sohn	BATS Global Markets, Blackbaud, Comcast, Goldman Sachs, Morgan Stanley, Shire, Smith & Nephew, Solvay, Symbion
Fried Frank	Bernard Nigro	2 partners 2 associates	Bernard A Nigro Jr	Van Wagner, Media General, International Rectifier, Merck, Harris Teeter, 24 Hour Fitness, Orbital Sciences
King & Spalding	Jeffrey Spigel	9 partners 2 counsel 10 associates	Jim Griffin	Arbor Pharmaceuticals, Bank of America, Bass Pro, InterContinental Hotels, Pandora, Progressive, Rock-Tenn
Mayer Brown	–	8 partners 6 associates	Robert E Bloch Richard J Favretto	Cargill, Big Ten college athletic conference, Nestle, Starwood Hotels, HealthNow, Mosaic, United Airlines
Paul Hastings	Scott Hataway	6 partners 3 counsel 17 associates	MJ Moltenbrey	American Airlines, Dow Chemical, Equinox, Korean Airlines, Shuanghui, Twin America, LG Display, UTI Worldwide, Sony, eBay

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Paul Weiss Rifkind Wharton & Garrison	Kenneth Gallo	4 partners 1 counsel 24 associates	Kenneth A Gallo Joseph L Simons	ASCAP, Alaska Communications, Deutsche Bank, Encana, MasterCard, News Corporation, Pfizer, Sharp
Ropes & Gray	Mark Popofsky	3 partners 8 associates	–	Bain Capital, Cablevision, Cubist Pharmaceuticals, Google, Hitachi LG Data Storage, Pfizer, Mallinckrodt, TPG Capital
Sidley Austin	William Blumenthal Kenneth Glazer	9 partners 2 counsel 7 associates	William Blumenthal Kenneth L Glazer	AT&T, Baxter International, Hood Packaging, CSX, Dell, Dow Chemical, Sigma-Aldrich, Catalyst Paper, Monsanto
Step toe & Johnson	Ed Schwartz	6 partners 2 counsel 5 associates	Kenneth P Ewing	FedEx, Western Union, LG, Japan Airlines, Republic Services, Rockwell Collins, PhRMA, Mitsubishi Heavy Industries, Entergy
Sullivan & Cromwell	Daryl Libow	2 partners 2 counsel 9 associates	–	AT&T, Bank of Tokyo-Mitsubishi, BP, British Airways, Goldman Sachs, JP Morgan Chase, NewPage, Valeant
Venable	Lisa Jose Fales	17 partners 5 counsel 8 associates	–	Ranbaxy, O'Bannon, Crowley Maritime, Fannie Mae, Macerich, National Association of Chain Drug Stores
Vinson & Elkins	Craig Seebald	6 partners 7 associates	Neil W Imus	Agility Logistics, Dart (Solo Cup), FirstSouthwest, Hitachi, Huntsman, Maxell, Southwest, Eagle Rock Energy
Williams & Connolly	–	–	–	Blue Sky Studios, Fox Sports Networks, Google, Sprint Nextel, Takata, Yankees Entertainment and Sports Network