ANTITRUST

OVERVIEW

Our leading Antitrust & Competition practice includes over 75 dedicated lawyers located in 15 offices across the US, UK, Belgium, France and Germany. Our significant global coverage is combined with intimate local knowledge of markets and regulatory regimes. Whether your issue is international or domestic, we will provide the strategic insight necessary to help you manage antitrust and competition law risk and at the same time achieve your commercial objectives. Our team provides commercially-focused, full-service competition and regulatory support to clients, ranging from compliance policies and training to cartel investigations and merger control. The experience of our team is substantive and diverse – in private practice, in industry, at regulators, in economics and in law. We are well-equipped to offer innovative, efficient and effective solutions. We are continually recognised for our work, and Global Competition Review has named us “one of the world’s leading competition practices”.

COUNSELLING AND COMPLIANCE

In addition to working with clients dealing with significant domestic and international cartel investigations, we act as trusted advisors to clients on the full spectrum of antitrust issues, including assessments of supply and distribution arrangements and other vertical agreements, horizontal cooperation agreements and monopolization/abuse of dominance questions. Given the importance of compliance, we help companies devise and implement policies by understanding the risks facing their businesses. When there are concerns about conduct, we work with clients to undertake the necessary internal investigations, focusing on identifying and mitigating risk. We also have extensive experience helping clients with queries relating to State aid and public procurement. With years of experience advising clients across regulated sectors, we bring a strategic approach to achieving a successful outcome, and our strength and depth across multiple industries provides clients with exceptional insight into the common themes and challenges facing regulated businesses.

MERGER CONTROL

We help our clients minimise the cost and burden of complying with the multiple systems of merger control that now exist worldwide, and help clients obtain clearance in those jurisdictions where notification is required, in the shortest time and in an efficient and co-ordinated manner. Members of our team have successfully advised on many high profile and complex transactions, including
obtaining HSR clearance from the US competition authorities and responding to second requests, as well as Phase II investigations by the European Commission and UK Competition and Markets Authority. Our strong relationships with the US, EU, UK and other competition authorities enable us to navigate the merger control process smoothly, from briefing papers and pre-notification meetings to notifications, oral hearings and, where necessary, negotiated modifications and remedies. We are able rapidly to assess whether and where your transaction may need to be disclosed, and we advise you as to regulatory risk to allow for well-informed decisions that affect the future of your business.

COMPETITION LITIGATION

In the past decade, our award-winning team has been at the forefront of advising clients in disputes concerning alleged anti-competitive conduct, including bringing and defending damages actions and defending class action suits (involving allegations of unlawful agreements, monopolization, and abuse of dominance). Globally, we have acted in many key competition litigation cases. Unlike many practices, we represent a wide range of clients, including both defendants and claimants/plaintiffs. Using our comprehensive knowledge and experience from different standpoints, we stay one step ahead in formulating successful strategies.
MEET THE TEAM

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RELATED PRACTICE AREAS
- Government Contracts & Public Procurement

AREAS OF FOCUS
- Brexit
Since 2016, when our team won the first contested court application to use predictive coding in disclosure, we have been at the forefront of using technology to effectively manage the huge data volumes which we often see in commercial litigation, arbitration and investigations. And this requires specialist expertise, which we are fortunate to have in our in-house Forensic Technology team. In this insight, Clare Reeve Curatola asks our experts, Jason Alvares and Chris Wheatley, to share their insights and thoughts on the developments and challenges in forensic technology. They also share practical tips to optimise the process of retaining and collecting data and documents, which often prove crucial to successfully resolving a dispute. Short on time? Jump to our practical tips.

There are various ways in the English High Court to bring a claim, including as a group or representative action. Historically they have been underused but that is changing. Businesses are becoming increasingly interested in this ability to bring group actions and mass claims in the English High Court. In this blog, Clare Reeve Curatola outlines different ways to bring a civil commercial claim in the English High Court and asks fellow Litigation and Investigations partner, Ben Blacklock, to share his insights into the changing approach to group or class actions and mass claims in the English courts. Ben shares his thoughts on the key developments and changes that may be driving an increase in group actions, the challenges and the important considerations for Claimants and Defendants to consider in this area. Short on time? Jump to our key considerations.
Awards
Aug 17, 2023
The Best Lawyers in America® 2024

News
Aug 14, 2023
Antitrust Team authored article in Legal 500: Competition Litigation Comparative Guide