



## John D. Harkrider

Partner | New York

### Practice Areas

Antitrust

### Contact

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John Harkrider is a founding partner of Axinn. He is ranked Band 1 by *Chambers and Partners*, which quoted clients as saying that John is a “brilliant” “powerhouse” with “the best understanding of not only how to build a case but also how to break it.” *Who’s Who Legal* stated that “John Harkrider is one of the USA’s most prominent antitrust litigators with unrivaled corporate practices.” John won *Global Competition Review* Lawyer of the Year and *American Lawyer* Litigator of the Week. He has been lead or co-lead on almost half a trillion dollars’ worth of deals, including Broadcom/VMware, Dell/EMC, BellSouth/AT&T, and AT&T Wireless/Cingular.

He has become a trusted advisor to multinational corporations, guiding them through intricate antitrust investigations, merger reviews, and regulatory compliance issues. Beyond the courtroom, John is a thought leader in the antitrust field. His insights have earned him industry recognition, including a Concurrences Antitrust Writing Award nomination for his contribution to *Global Competition Review’s Merger Remedies Guide*.

### Professional Activities

- Editorial Board, ANTITRUST (2007–2022)

- American Bar Association, Vice-Chair, Economics Committee, Section of Antitrust Law (2003–2006)
- New York State Bar Association
- New York City Bar Association

## Experience

### Transactional

- First Advantage in its \$2.2 billion acquisition of Sterling Check Corp.
- VMware's \$69 billion acquisition by Broadcom
- Dell's \$67 billion acquisition of EMC
- Berkshire Partners in its parallel acquisitions of Forcura and Medalogix
- Thermo Fisher Scientific in its \$3.1 billion acquisition of Olink Holding
- Thermo Fisher Scientific in its \$13.6 billion acquisition of Life Technologies
- Thermo Fisher Scientific in its \$12.5 billion tender offer for Qiagen
- Thermo Fisher Scientific in its approximately \$1.85 billion acquisition of PeproTech, Inc.
- Google's \$12.5 billion acquisition of Motorola Mobility
- Google's \$700 million acquisition of ITA
- Ball Corporation's \$6.85 billion acquisition of Rexam PLC

### Sherman Act Litigation

- Omnicare with respect to its Section One conspiracy claims against United Health in both the Northern District of Illinois and the Seventh Circuit
- United Technologies Corporation in connection with Walker Process and Handgards claims in the Northern District of Illinois and District of Maryland
- Stanley Black & Decker with respect to Section One conspiracy claims in the Eastern District of Virginia and Fourth Circuit

### Investigations

- Google Section 2 investigation before agencies throughout the world
- Google with respect to its Standard Essential Patents decree with FTC
- Stanley Works with respect to Made in USA markings

## FTC and DOJ Merger Challenges

- Tyson Foods and George's in DOJ merger challenge in the Western District of Virginia
- SunGard in DOJ merger challenge to acquisition of Comdisco in D.C. District Court
- U.S. DOJ in challenge to WorldCom's \$129 billion acquisition of Sprint

## Honors

- Chambers USA – Band 1 (Global, Nationwide and New York City)
- Axinn won *Global Competition Review* “Law Firm of the Year” (Americas) (2021 and 2016)
- Winner of *Global Competition Review* “Matter of the Year” (2013)
- Named “Litigator of the Week” by *The American Lawyer* (January 13, 2013)
- Winner of *Global Competition Review* “Lawyer of the Year” (2012)
- *The Legal 500 United States* – Antitrust: Merger Control (2022 – 2024); Leading Lawyer for Antitrust Merger Control (2023 – 2024); Antitrust: Cartels (2024)
- Winner of “Merger Control Matter of the Year” (2012)
- Comp360 MVP (2012)
- Antitrust Writing Award sponsored by the Institute of Competition Law (2014)
- *Lawdragon*, “500 Leading Antitrust & Global Competition Lawyers” (2025)
- *Lawdragon*, “500 Leading Lawyers in America” (2025)
- *Lawdragon*, “500 Leading Dealmakers in America” (2024 – 2025)
- *Lawdragon*, “500 Leading Litigators in America” (2023 – 2025)
- Best Lawyers in America (2017 – 2025)
- Who's Who Legal: Thought Leaders – Competition (2024 – 2025)
- Who's Who Legal: Competition (2019 – 2024)
- Who's Who Legal: Thought Leaders – Global Elite (2023)

## Education

- PhD Program – University of Michigan (did not complete dissertation)

- JD, cum laude – University of California, Hastings College of the Law (1991) Order of the Coif
- BA, with highest Honors – University of Michigan (1988)

## Admissions

- District of Columbia
- New York
- U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit
- U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit
- U.S. Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit
- U.S. Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit
- U.S. District Court Southern District of New York
- Judicial Panel on Multidistrict Litigation

## Quotes

**“John Harkrider is one of the USA’s most prominent antitrust litigators, with an unrivalled corporate practice as well as deep expertise in litigation and agency investigations.”**

— *Who's Who Legal*

**“The ‘brilliant’ John Harkrider is a ‘powerhouse’ and ‘gifted advocate.’”**

— *Chambers USA*

**“A ‘really terrific lawyer’ who is a ‘very smart, excellent writer.’”**

— *Chambers USA*

**“An extremely intelligent attorney with formidable understanding of business and finance.”**

— *Chambers USA*

**“Incredibly bright mind and intellectual capacity.”**

— Chambers USA

**“Has the best understanding of not only how to build a case but also how to break it.”**

— *Chambers USA*

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