



James K. Hunsberger

Partner | Washington, DC

Practice Areas

Antitrust

Contact

T: 202.469.3561

jhunsberger@axinn.com



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James Hunsberger helps clients navigate the full range of complex antitrust challenges, from major global mergers to high-stakes litigation and government investigations. James has over a decade of experience representing leading companies in high-profile matters before courts across the country, the DOJ and FTC, and international agencies. James is known for delivering clear, practical strategies that align with his clients' commercial goals, built on a deep understanding of their business and the markets in which they compete.

Recognized by *Best Lawyers* as a top antitrust attorney "to watch," James works across a wide range of industries—software, telecom, semiconductors, chemicals, consumer goods, building solutions, international shipping, and more. He's successfully guided both U.S. and international companies through tough regulatory hurdles, representing clients in investigations by the DOJ, FTC, and competition authorities in Europe, China, the UK, Brazil, Japan, Korea, and beyond.

Clients count on James to solve their biggest challenges—whether it is securing global clearances for multibillion-dollar mergers or crafting creative defense strategies for headline-making litigations under the Sherman Act, Clayton Act, and state antitrust laws. His ability to lead multijurisdictional teams and coordinate with multiple firms has delivered standout results in some of the most high-profile cases in recent years. He recently served

as lead global antitrust counsel for VMware in its \$69 billion acquisition by Broadcom and is currently defending Google in multiple cases brought by the Department of Justice, state attorneys general, and private plaintiffs challenging the company's ad tech business.

Before joining Axinn, James spent seven years at a global law firm, where he helped T-Mobile win a federal trial against a coalition of state attorneys general that cleared the way for its \$146 billion merger with Sprint. He also played a key role in securing global clearance for Dow Chemical's \$130 billion merger with DuPont — one of the most complex merger reviews in history, requiring approval in over 20 jurisdictions.

James is an active member of the Antitrust Law Section of the American Bar Association, currently serving as a Vice Chair on the Mergers & Acquisitions Committee and the Podcast Programming Committee. James also serves on the editorial board for the Antitrust Report (LexisNexis).

James earned his JD at Georgetown University Law Center, *magna cum laude* and Order of the Coif, where he was an articles editor for *The Georgetown Law Journal* and a Legal Research & Writing Fellow. He holds an undergraduate degree in economics from Cornell University.

Professional Activities

- American Bar Association Antitrust Law Section, Mergers & Acquisitions Committee, Vice Chair (2024 – 2025)
- American Bar Association Antitrust Law Section, Podcast Programming Committee, Vice Chair (2024 – 2025)
- American Bar Association Antitrust Law Section, U.S. Comments and Policy Committee, Young Lawyer Representative (2023 – 2024)
- American Bar Association Antitrust Law Section, Antitrust Consumer Protection Law Daily Digest Committee, Young Lawyer Representative (2023 – 2024)
- American Bar Association Antitrust Law Section, Corporate Counseling Committee, Young Lawyer Representative (2022 – 2023)
- American Bar Association Antitrust Law Section, Federal Civil Enforcement Committee, Young Lawyer Representative (2021 – 2022)

Experience

- Representing Google in multiple litigations brought by Department of Justice, state attorneys general, and private plaintiffs challenging Google's ad technology business.
- Represented VMware, Inc., a leading virtualization software provider, in its \$69 billion acquisition by Broadcom Inc., a global technology leader in semiconductor, data center hardware, and infrastructure software solutions.

- Represented Dell Technologies Inc. in its \$4 billion sale of Boomi, a leading provider of cloud-based integration platform as a service (iPaaS).
- Represented Stanley Black & Decker, Inc., in its \$1.6 billion acquisition of the remaining 80% stake in MTD Holdings Inc., a worldwide leader in outdoor power equipment.
- Represented Stanley Black & Decker, Inc. in its \$375 million acquisition of Excel Industries Inc., a leading designer and manufacturer of premium commercial and residential turf care equipment.
- Represented The Dow Chemical Company in its \$130 billion merger with DuPont.
- Successfully defended T-Mobile and Deutsche Telekom at trial in a federal court challenge brought by a coalition of state attorneys general seeking to block the merger of T-Mobile and Sprint (with a post-merger combined enterprise value of \$146 billion). (*New York et al. v. Deutsche Telekom AG et al.*, 439 F. Supp. 3d 179 (S.D.N.Y. 2020)).
- Successfully defended Kawasaki Kisen Kaisha, Ltd., and “K” Line America, Inc., in global automotive-shipping cartel investigations and follow-on civil litigation. Following guilty plea with DOJ for price-fixing charges, won complete dismissal of all damages claims in federal court class actions brought by direct and indirect purchaser plaintiffs, in a decision that was upheld by the Third Circuit. (*In re Vehicle Carrier Services Antitrust Litig.*, 846 F.3d 71 (3d Cir. 2017)).
- Represented KLA Corporation, a leading provider of process control and yield management solutions for the semiconductor and nanoelectronics industries, in its \$3.4 billion acquisition of Orbotech Ltd., a leading global supplier of yield-enhancing and process-enabling solutions for the manufacture of electronics products.
- Represented Keurig Green Mountain in monopolization litigation brought by competitors and putative class action plaintiffs, including successfully defending against a preliminary injunction seeking to block the launch of Keurig’s 2.0 coffee brewer in a decision that was upheld by the Second Circuit.

Honors

- *Best Lawyers*, “Ones to Watch” for Antitrust Law (2021 – 2025)
- *Lawdragon*, “500 Leading Antitrust & Global Competition Lawyers” (2025)
- *Lawdragon*, “500 X – The Next Generation” (2024)
- *Super Lawyers*, “Rising Star” for Antitrust Litigation (2019 – 2024)

Education

- JD, *magna cum laude* – Georgetown University Law Center (2013) Order of the Coif
- BA, Economics, with distinction in all subjects – Cornell University (2010)

Admissions

- District of Columbia
- New York
- U.S. District Court District of Columbia
- U.S. District Court Eastern District of Michigan
- U.S. District Court Eastern District of New York
- U.S. District Court Southern District of New York

Quotes

“It has incredibly creative, dedicated, and brilliant antitrust lawyers who achieve excellent results when others think nothing can be done.”

— *Chambers USA*

“Axinn proves to have not just the necessary knowledge and skill to handle complex and sophisticated matters, but the depth of experience to anticipate unforeseen hurdles.”

— *Chambers USA*