

CHRISTOPHER J. ABBOTT, Partner

A former lawyer in the Mergers IV Division of the Federal Trade Commission's Bureau of Competition, Christopher J. Abbott provides best-in-class advice to corporate clients engaged in high-stakes transactions, antitrust class actions, and civil and criminal conduct investigations. His experience across all aspects of antitrust law allows him to see around corners, and his practical approach enables him to distil complex issues into actionable business advice.

Mr. Abbott counsels companies through all stages of the deal-making process, from initial antitrust risk assessments to substantive advocacy before the Federal Trade Commission and Department of Justice in support of merger clearance. Clients rely on his ability to assess the compliance and antitrust implications of day-to-day business decisions.

Healthcare, technology, agriculture, and gaming industry clients benefit from Mr. Abbott's breadth of antitrust litigation experience. He leverages his years of experience in both government and private practice to guide them through significant class and direct actions, including parallel civil and criminal government investigations.

Mr. Abbott focuses his pro bono practice on obtaining Special Immigrant Visas for Afghan interpreters and their families, as well as assisting indigent tenants in disputes with landlords.

Representative Matters

- Represented one of the largest chicken producers in the United States in three federal class actions and dozens of consolidated direct actions brought by purchasers alleging major chicken producers conspired to reduce output, fix prices, and rig bids for broiler chicken products.
- Represented an American, multinational food company in a consolidated multidistrict antitrust class action alleging poultry producers illegally conspired to fix compensation to growers in violation of the Sherman Act and Packers & Stockyards Act.
- Represented a global, broad-based health care company in its acquisition of a global leader in point-of-care diagnostics in a deal valued at approximately \$5.3 billion. Obtained antitrust clearance from the Federal Trade Commission with divestitures required.
- Represented an online pet retailer in securing antitrust clearance for its \$3.35 billion acquisition by the largest specialty pet retailer. The acquisition was the largest ever of an e-commerce business at the time.
- CoStar/Apartments.com – Represented the world leader in commercial real estate information in the antitrust aspects of its \$385 million acquisition of the premier online apartment rental platform. Mr. Abbott secured clearance without conditions following receipt of second request.



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PRACTICE GROUPS

Antitrust and Competition Law
Complex Commercial Litigation
Corporate
Food and Beverage
Litigation
Mergers & Acquisitions

INDUSTRY GROUPS

Life Sciences

EDUCATION

Suffolk University Law School, JD, 2012

American University, BA, 2005

ADMISSIONS

District of Columbia

Massachusetts

New York

COURT ADMISSIONS

US Supreme Court

US District Court, Northern District of Illinois

Service to the Bar

- American Bar Association
 - Member, Section of Antitrust Law - Joint Conduct Committee
 - Member, Mergers and Acquisitions
 - Member, Health Care and Pharmaceuticals
 - Member, Media and Technology
 - Member, Agriculture and Food
 - Member, Cartel and Criminal Practice
 - Contributing Editor, Section of Antitrust Law's *Quick Look*

Speaking Engagements

- Panelist, "Antitrust Developments for Big Tech," ACME, September 21, 2022
- "Q2 Recent Antitrust Developments in Health Care & Pharma," American Bar Association, July 14, 2022