

Axinn Names DC-Based Antitrust Partner as Next Leader

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What You Need to Know

- Maier said one of her main priorities as managing partner will be to continue to build on the firm's brand.
- Axinn, a 100-lawyer firm known for its high-profile antitrust and litigation work, represents clients such as Google, Tyson Foods, among others.
- Maier is one of many law firm partners who are holding new leadership positions at the beginning of 2024.

Axinn, Veltrop & Harkrider, a midsize firm that takes on matters for high-profile clients such as Google, Tyson Foods and VMware, has named antitrust partner Jeny Maier, based in Washington, D.C., as the firm's next managing partner.

Maier succeeds Matt Becker, who served as managing partner for six years and will continue to practice in the firm's intellectual property group, effective at the beginning of this year. The 100-lawyer firm, founded in New York, also has offices in San Francisco and Hartford, Connecticut.

Maier, who took over as managing partner effectively at the beginning of this year, said



(Courtesy photo)

Jeny Maier, managing partner of Axinn, Veltrop & Harkrider.

one of her main priorities is to continue to build on the firm's brand strategy, including remaining "focused" on the firm's core antitrust and litigation practices, which Maier later noted "sets us apart" from full-service firms.

"Number one is to really articulate our brand and the value of the firm. This is a very competitive legal market, but we believe that we have an exceptional value proposition," said Maier. "We have immensely

talented lawyers, and we just want to continue to make Axinn a destination both for talent and for our clients and do high quality, sophisticated front page of the newspaper type of legal work.”

Axinn represents Google in multiple anti-trust cases challenging its ad technology business, including cases brought by the Justice Department and state AGs, as well as multiple class actions and individual cases filed by private plaintiffs.

The firm also is representing Choice Hotels International Inc. on the antitrust aspects of its proposed acquisition of Wyndham Hotels & Resorts Inc.

Other clients of Axinn include Tyson Foods, Ball Corp., Thermo Fisher Scientific and VMware, among others.

“We had an exceptional year in 2023,” said Maier. “When it comes to benchmarking ourselves, in terms of both our financial performance as well as the types of clients and matters and talent that we’re looking to recruit, we’re really comparing ourselves to the Am Law 50.”

Maier declined to provide specifics on the firm’s financial performance last year.

Maier joined Axinn in 2015 from Morrison Foerster, holding several leadership positions within Axinn’s antitrust practice, before joining the firm’s executive committee in 2022.

“Jeny combines undeniable leadership skills with a background in economics and a talent for strategic thinking—characteristics that will benefit Axinn as much as they do our clients,” Becker said in a firm statement.

Many other law firms have announced leadership transitions over the past year, propelled by a combination of factors, including burnout in the wake of the pandemic, aging partners and more pressure to pay high performers, say consultants and industry analysts in interviews with *The American Lawyer*.

Axinn is one of several law firms within the Washington, D.C., market that have announced leadership changes at the start of this year. D.C.-founded class action litigation firm Cohen Milstein Sellers & Toll named Benjamin Brown as its new managing partner.

Another D.C.-founded firm Zuckerman Spaeder named D.C. partner Caroline Mehta as co-chair of the firm’s executive committee and partnership board. Mehta will assume the role as chair beginning in 2025.