



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

- VMware's \$69 billion acquisition by Broadcom
- Dell's \$67 billion acquisition of EMC
- 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 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*

