



United States: New York

10 December 2021



The US capital might be home to both of the country's antitrust enforcers, but plenty of deal work and multi-district litigation defence matters lands on the desks of competition lawyers in New York.

Elite

The New York antitrust practice at **CRAVATH SWAINE & MOORE** is led by former Antitrust Division head Christine Varney. She is joined by an experienced line-up of partners including Evan Chesler, Peter Barbur, Julie North, Katherine Forrest, Daniel Slifkin, Michael Paskin, Gary Bornstein, Karin DeMasi, Kevin Orsini, Yonatan Even and Margaret Segall.

The group has taken on some of the highest-profile deals and cases in the antitrust arena in past years. Cravath currently acts for Illumina on its \$8 billion purchase of cancer-screening company Grail, which the FTC challenged before its internal tribunal. The firm also advised Mylan on its \$50 billion merger with Pfizer’s off-patent and generic medicines business Upjohn. The FTC required the drug makers to divest 10 of Upjohn’s generic pharmaceuticals in October 2020, although both of the then Democratic commissioners dissented against the remedy.

On the litigation side, Cravath acts for Epic Games in its lawsuits accusing Apple and Google of monopolising the markets for purchasing and downloading software on mobile devices. It also defends the Blue Cross Blue Shield Association and several of its members against claims they illegally allocated geographic markets. The insurer settled with subscriber plaintiffs and is still fighting the allegations brought by healthcare providers. Meanwhile, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Florida tapped the firm to beat an antitrust complaint brought by rival Oscar Insurance challenging its exclusivity provisions for insurance brokers. The firm also defends Facebook against allegations it has illegally monopolised the market for digital advertising made by dozens of newspapers.

| Firm | Head(s) of competition | Size | No. WWL nominees | Clients |
|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------|---|
| Elite | | | | |
| Cravath Swaine & Moore | Christine Varney | 26 lawyers (firm-wide) | 4 | American Express, Bausch Healthcare, Blue Cross Blue Shield, Epic Games, Facebook, Illumina, Morgan Stanley, Qualcomm, Westpac Banking, Viatris |