



John G. Calender

Senior Counsel

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John G. Calender, former managing shareholder of the Washington, D.C. office and former member of the Firm's Board of Directors, concentrates his practice in antitrust, commercial litigation, government investigations, and in compliance training and counseling, both domestic and international.

Mr. Calender has extensive antitrust experience with administrative trials, investigations, hospital mergers, compliance issues and consent orders before the Federal Trade Commission and the Department of Justice. Mr. Calender regularly counsels clients on antitrust issues including antitrust/intellectual property issues, information sharing/benchmarking, labor antitrust issues, international antitrust issues, antitrust exemptions, health care and distribution issues, trade association issues and on a variety of other matters.

He has made presentations to Congressional staff, responded to Congressional inquiries and conducted internal investigations on behalf of major financial institutions and manufacturers.

Mr. Calender's litigation experience includes the management of large teams of attorneys, experts, economists, paralegals and support staff in complex litigation and class action suits in federal and state courts, as well as in agency investigations. He has successfully defended major Federal Trade Commission and Department of Justice antitrust trials and investigations involving merger cases (both horizontal and vertical), price fixing, market allocation, benchmarking, monopolization and price discrimination. He has also responded to inquiries from various State Attorneys General.

Representative Matters

- Lead counsel in a multi-defendant class action defending a poultry processor against a putative nationwide class of hourly and salaried poultry workers bringing claims under antitrust laws alleging suppression of plant worker compensation and/or benefits by the industry through information sharing, serving as liaison counsel for a large group of defendants.
- Lead counsel in a multi-defendant class action defending a poultry processor against a putative nationwide class of broiler growers bringing claims under antitrust laws and the Packers and Stockyards Act alleging suppression of broiler grower compensation by the industry through information sharing and/or no-poach or non-solicitation agreements.
- Successfully represented a major hospital system in seeking state action antitrust immunity under state laws (Certificate of Public Advantage) for a major merger.
- Successfully defended client in an FTC preliminary injunction action seeking to enjoin major acquisition (three-day expedited federal court trial) and FTC administrative trials involving predatory pricing, monopolization, price discrimination, and merger issues.
- Served as coordinating counsel in a major Department of Justice benchmarking/information sharing investigation involving trade associations and member companies.

Professional Honors & Activities

- Member – District of Columbia Bar Association
- Member – American Bar Association, Antitrust Section
- Listed in *The Best Lawyers in America*® for Litigation - Antitrust (2020 – 2026)
- Listed in Washington, D.C. Super Lawyers, Antitrust Litigation (2013 – 2025)

- Recipient – Baker Donelson Firm Wide Award for Pro Bono Service (2020)
- Recipient – Baker Donelson's Washington, D.C. Office Pro Bono Award (2009, 2012, 2013)
- Named an Outstanding Healthcare Antitrust Lawyer by *Nightingale's Healthcare News* (2007)
- Member – Competition Editorial Advisory Board, *Law360* (2010)
- Recipient – Extraordinary Performance Award in Recognition of Outstanding Work in the Homeless Community from The Community for Creative Non-Violence, largest homeless shelter in the U.S. (2010)
- Capital Pro Bono High Honor Roll from D.C. Court of Appeals and D.C. Superior Court for "remarkable pro bono service to our neighbors in need" (2012 – 2021)
- Member – Baker Donelson Pro Bono Committee
- Member – American Health Law Association (Antitrust Group)
- Former member of Baker Donelson's Board of Directors
- Speaker at various seminars within his practice areas



Publications

- "Stay Vigilant! Labor Antitrust and Enforcement Remain a Trump Administration Priority," republished April 3, 2025, in *Westlaw Today* (February 2025)
- "Should Employees Stay or Should They Go: The NLRB and FTC Crack Down on Restrictive Covenants," republished November 4, 2024, in *Law.com/The Legal Intelligencer* (October 2024)
- "DOJ Cracks Down on Alleged Wage Fixing and No Poach Agreements," republished in *Westlaw* (February 2022)
- "All Hands on Deck: Executive Order Promoting Competition in the American Economy" (July 2021)
- Contributor – "The CFPB - A Powerful New Cop," *Mortgage Banking* (September 2013)
- Co-author – "CFPB Demonstrates its Broad Scope," CFPB Focus News (September 2013)
- "Explaining U.S. Antitrust and Baseball," *Law360* (December 2011)
- Co-author – "Growing Foreign Prosecutions Under FCPA-Style Laws," *Law360* (August 2011)
- "The New Tag Team: Antitrust And FCPA," *Law360* (May 2011)



Speaking Engagements

- Panelist – "Competition or Regulation? State COPA Laws and Hospital Mergers," AHLA and ABA Section of Antitrust Law 2018 Antitrust in Healthcare Conference (May 2018)
- Co-speaker – "The Rise in Simultaneous Antitrust and Anti-Corruption Investigations," American Conference Institute FCPA Conference, New York (May 2015)
- "June Antitrust Update for In-House Counsel," Antitrust Law Section, American Bar Association (July 2012)



Webinars

- What Happened to September 4? Non-Competes and Antitrust Enforcement in Labor Markets: Ways to Minimize Risk and Defend Your Company's Competitive Edge (August 2024)



Education

- George Washington University, J.D.
- Union College, B.A., cum laude



Admissions

- District of Columbia
- U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia
- U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia