

Brent Snyder

PARTNER

Antitrust and
Competition
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FOCUS AREAS

Antitrust Civil Enforcement
Antitrust Compliance and
Business Strategy
Antitrust Criminal
Enforcement
Antitrust Litigation
Antitrust and Competition
Antitrust and Intellectual
Property
Artificial Intelligence and
Machine Learning
FCPA and Anti-Corruption
Government Investigations
State Attorneys General
Strategic Risk and Crisis
Management
Third-Party Merger and
Non-Merger Antitrust
Representation
White Collar Crime

HIGHLIGHTS

■ Leading Antitrust Practitioner

A nationally and internationally recognized antitrust and competition attorney, Brent has over 30 years of civil and criminal litigation and trial experience in the public and private sectors.

■ Antitrust Division Veteran

Brent is the former DOJ Acting Assistant Attorney General for Antitrust during the transition between the Obama and Trump administrations as well as the DOJ's highest-ranking antitrust criminal enforcement attorney, having served as Deputy Assistant Attorney General for Criminal Enforcement at the Antitrust Division from 2013 to 2017.

■ Deep Antitrust Cartel Expertise

Brent brings over two decades of deep expertise investigating and prosecuting global cartel conduct—including prosecutions and investigations in sectors ranging from air transportation, coastal water freight, and thin film liquid crystal display to automobile parts, generic drugs, ocean shipping, packaged seafood, and real estate mortgage foreclosure auctions—and a track record spanning complex litigation, cross-border enforcement, and leadership of the Hong Kong Competition Commission.

EXPERIENCE

Brent Snyder, head of the firm's regulatory and compliance department, brings more than 30 years of civil and criminal litigation and trial experience in both the private and public sectors. He is widely regarded as one of the world's leading authorities on antitrust and competition enforcement in the area of antitrust cartels and related criminal violations. Brent has secured positive outcomes for leading companies and individual executives across industries in investigations by the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) and other antitrust enforcers, all while ensuring minimal business disruptions.

Prior to joining the firm, Brent served as chief executive officer of the Hong Kong Competition Commission (HKCC), where he had day-to-day responsibility for all aspects of its enforcement, policy, advocacy, and administration functions. Under his leadership, the HKCC set several important litigation precedents; significantly increased the volume, variety, and complexity of its enforcement work; improved its leniency and cooperation incentives; and enhanced its competition policy and advocacy work.

Previously, Brent was the Deputy Assistant Attorney General for Criminal Enforcement (DAAG) at the DOJ Antitrust Division—the DOJ's top criminal antitrust official. From 2013 to 2017, he directed all U.S. criminal antitrust investigations and prosecutions, and played a key role in shaping enduring DOJ policy, including the Memorandum on Individual Accountability for Corporate Wrongdoing (the so-

called “Yates Memo”). As DAAG, Brent oversaw criminal antitrust investigations and prosecutions across numerous industries, including auto parts, capacitors, foreign exchange, generic pharmaceuticals, ocean shipping, packaged seafood, and real estate mortgage foreclosure auctions. His work also included investigations of non-antitrust criminal violations, such as fraud, obstruction of justice, and false statements. In addition, Brent served as the Acting Assistant Attorney General for Antitrust during the transition between the Obama and Trump administrations.

Before becoming DAAG, Brent was a Trial Attorney in the Antitrust Division’s National Criminal Enforcement Section and then its San Francisco office from 2003 to 2013, where he investigated and prosecuted Sherman Act cases and related criminal violations, including grand jury investigations, indictments, litigation, and jury trials.

Earlier in his career, Brent was a commercial litigation partner in Perkins Coie's Seattle office, where he represented clients in a range of cases, including antitrust, entertainment, employment, contract, and intellectual property law matters, and across multiple industries such as banking, automobile manufacturing, telecommunications, technology, and international trading, among others. Brent began his legal career as a clerk for the Honorable Alan C. Kay, Chief Judge for the U.S. District Court of the District of Hawaii.

CREDENTIALS

Education

- J.D., The University of Texas School of Law, 1992
With Honors; Associate Editor, Texas Law Review
- B.A., Political Science, Seattle Pacific University, 1989
Magna Cum Laude

Honors

- Recognized in the “Antitrust: Cartel” category in the 2024-2026 editions of *Chambers Global*
- Recognized in the 2023-2026 editions of *Chambers USA: America’s Leading Lawyers for Business*, sources remark Brent is “a brilliant wordsmith” who “has got this incredible depth of experience,” “has great perspective on complex cases,” and “provides good practical advice and great client service”
- Selected for inclusion in the 2025 edition of *GCR/Lexology Index’s Competition* guide
- Named to Lawdragon’s 2025-2026 “500 Leading Global Antitrust & Competition Lawyers” guide
- Named among Lawdragon’s “500 Leading Litigators in America,” 2025-2026
- Named a “California Lawyer of the Year” by *California Lawyer* (2013)
- Recognized with Attorney General’s Award for Distinguished Service (2009 and 2012)
- Recipient of Council of Inspectors General for Integrity and Efficiency Award of Excellence (2009)
- Honored with Antitrust Division Award of Distinction (2007)
- Named as a “Rising Star” of the Seattle legal community by *Washington Law & Politics* (2000-2003)

Admissions

- State Bar of California

MATTERS

Select Matters

Representative Private Practice Matters:

- An individual in an investigation by the DOJ and other competition authorities of alleged price-fixing and bid-rigging of certain consumer products
- An executive of a government contractor under investigation by the DOJ for allegedly agreeing with another company to rig bids and allocate government contracts
- Global automotive manufacturer in DOJ criminal cartel investigation and Hong Kong Competition Commission investigation, resulting in no charges
- A major corporation in the digital advertising and technology sector in a DOJ grand jury investigation of alleged no poach agreements that resulted from the agency’s review of the company’s contemplated merger, resulting in no charges
- A manufacturing innovation institute in connection with a criminal bid-rigging investigation into a federal funding opportunity, resulting in no charges
- Chief executive officer of a healthcare company in a criminal “no poach” investigation, resulting in no charges

- President of a manufacturing company in a criminal “no poach” investigation, resulting in no charges
- Fashion designer in a price-fixing investigation, resulting in no charges
- Corporate executive in an obstruction of justice investigation, resulting in no charges
- Individuals and companies in ongoing criminal antitrust investigations
- Apparel brand in antitrust counseling
- Counseling investors on antitrust risk associated with common forms of ESG-related shareholder activism and shareholder engagement
- A CSR foundation in preparing a senior executive to testify before Congress on important issues relating to antitrust application to ESG-related issues
- Representing the recipient of a federal award under the Inflation Reduction Act in connection with a federal grand jury investigation regarding alleged fraud in the award process, a related agency investigation, and multiple congressional investigations
- *In re Passenger Vehicle Replacement Tires Antitrust Litigation*
Represented defendants Continental AG and Continental Tire the Americas, LLC in a multidistrict litigation brought by three putative classes of plaintiffs who alleged that Continental conspired with other major tire manufacturers to artificially inflate the price of new replacement vehicle tires in the United States. Obtained a dismissal of the complaints in their entirety.
- *Alakayak v. All Alaskan Seafoods, et al.*
Represented defendants Marubeni Corp., Marubeni America Corp., North Pacific Processors, Inc., and Togiak Seafoods in a price-fixing class action involving the Alaska salmon industry. Obtained a settlement for clients during trial.
- *MetroNet Services v. Qwest Communications*
Defended against an alleged violation of Section 2 of the Sherman Act; summary judgment for Qwest Communications affirmed on appeal after remand from the U.S. Supreme Court.

Representative Criminal Antitrust Investigations (as Prosecutor):*

- *United States v. Horizon Lines* and *United States v. Frank Peake*
Criminal antitrust violations in the Coastal Water Freight industry.
- *United States v. AU Optronics, et al.* and *United States v. Steven Leung*
Criminal antitrust violations in the TFT-LCD industry.
- *United States v. Korean Air Lines Co., Ltd.* and *United States v. Bruce McCaffrey*
Criminal antitrust violations in the Air Transportation industry.
- *United States v. Bristol-Myers Squibb Co.*
False statements to the FTC in connection with the settlement of a patent infringement lawsuit.
- *United States v. Alexander Chisholm*
Obstruction of justice in an investigation of the Coastal Water Freight industry.

Representative Criminal Antitrust Investigations (Oversight as Antitrust Division’s Deputy Assistant Attorney General):*

- Automotive Parts
- Capacitors
- Foreign Exchange
- Generic Pharmaceuticals
- Ocean Shipping
- Packaged Seafood
- Real Estate Mortgage Foreclosure Auction

Representative Commercial Litigation Matters:*

- *Cochran v. American Savings Bank*
Represented defendant American Savings Bank in an age and gender discrimination lawsuit. Obtained a settlement for American Savings Bank.
- *In re Estate of Eric Wright aka Eazy-E*
Represented the estate of the founder of the gangsta rap group NWA and Ruthless Records in probate and related commercial litigation, including a successful trial upholding the validity of Mr. Wright’s estate plan.
- *Hoffer v. InfoSpace, Inc. and Naveen Jain*
Represented defendants InfoSpace, Inc. and Naveen Jain in stock option litigation. Obtained a settlement after dismissal of all claims against Mr. Jain and entry of partial summary judgment in favor of InfoSpace, Inc.
- *Leftbank Management v. RealNetworks, Inc.*
Represented defendant RealNetworks, Inc. in litigation regarding ownership of the company. Settlement obtained while RealNetworks’ summary judgment motion was pending.

- *ZZ Top v. Chrysler Corporation*
Represented defendant Chrysler Corporation in copyright infringement litigation related to the ZZ Top song “LaGrange.” Settlement obtained while Chrysler Corporation’s summary judgment motion on copyright misuse counterclaims was pending.

**Denotes experience prior to joining Wilson Sonsini in 2021.*

INSIGHTS

Select Publications

- Co-author, “Ninth Circuit Clarifies (Somewhat) the Antitrust Risk of Pricing Algorithms,” Wilson Sonsini Alert, August 18, 2025
- Co-author, “Blowing the Whistle on Antitrust Crimes: DOJ’s Antitrust Division Announces First Whistleblower Rewards Program,” Wilson Sonsini Alert, August 4, 2025
- Co-author, “Perseverance Pays Off for DOJ in Labor Market Criminal Trial,” Wilson Sonsini Alert, April 17, 2025
- Co-author, “Weaponizing Antitrust: An Unsubstantiated Attack Against Climate Initiatives,” *Westlaw Today*, February 7, 2025
- Co-author, “2025 Year in Preview: Trends and Key Decisions in Global Cartel Enforcement,” Wilson Sonsini Alert, January 29, 2025
- Co-author, “Agency Guidance for Avoiding ‘Interlocking’ Directors and Officers,” Wilson Sonsini Alert, January 21, 2025
- Co-author, “Antitrust Laws and ESG Shareholder Engagement,” Wilson Sonsini Alert, January 6, 2025
- Co-author, “Latest Ruling Relating to Pricing Software Highlights Antitrust Risks,” Wilson Sonsini Alert, December 9, 2024
- Co-author with M. McDonald and A. Wang, “Antitrust and Sustainability: Potential Paths Forward for U.S. Companies,” *The Antitrust Source*, American Bar Association, August 30, 2023
- Co-author, “Federal District Court Dismisses Justice Department’s Latest ‘No-Poach’ Case Before Jury Deliberations,” *Employee Relations Law Journal*, Autumn 2023
- Co-author, “Criminal Enforcement of Hiring Conduct: No-Poach and Wage-Fixing Indictments,” *Employee Relations Law Journal*, Spring 2022
- Co-author with S. Chung and M. Rubbo, “What You Need to Know About Corporate Leniency,” ACC Docket, January 10, 2022
- Co-author, “The Monaco Memo: What Could It Mean for Criminal Antitrust Enforcement?” Competition Policy International, December 12, 2021
- Co-author with J. Miller, “Crediting Corporate Compliance Programs in Criminal Antitrust Cases: How Strong a Wind of Change?” Competition Policy International, November 2021
- Co-author with R. Crauthers, “Criminal Enforcement of Hiring Conduct: No-Poach and Wage Fixing Indictments,” American Bar Association, October 21, 2021

Select Speaking Engagements

- Panelist, “Tariffs and Antitrust in Focus: What Companies Need to Know,” Webinar, July 30, 2025
- Panelist, “Navigating the Legal Landscape: Risks, Responsibilities, and Regulations,” US SIF Forum, June 25, 2025
- Panelist, “Regulatory Outlook Under Trump 2.0: A 100-Day Review,” Webinar, May 20, 2025
- Panelist, “Sustainable Investing and Antitrust Risk,” US SIF Webinar, April 30, 2025
- Panelist, “Evolving Antitrust Implications of ESG,” Webinar, March 20, 2025
- Panelist, “The Impact of a New Administration on Cartel Conduct,” GCR Live: Cartels, March 11, 2025
- Moderator, “Regulatory Outlook Under Trump 2.0,” Webinar, January 22, 2025
- Panelist, “Resurgence or Rhetoric? Criminal Antitrust Enforcement during the Biden Era,” New York State Bar Association Antitrust Law Section Annual Meeting, January 16, 2025
- Speaker, “Navigating the Nexus: Competition Law, Arbitration, and Global Trade Dynamics,” Des Voeux Chambers Seminar, November 19, 2024
- Panelist, “Election 2024: Regulatory Predictions for the New Administration,” Webinar, September 24, 2024
- Panelist, “ESG and Antitrust: Navigating the Tightrope of Collaboration and Compliance,” PLI Webinar, September 19, 2024
- Moderator, “Anatomy of a Search Warrant,” ABA International Cartel Workshop, June 24, 2024
- Session Chair, *Asia-Pacific Enforcers: Post-Pandemic Update*, ABA Antitrust Law Spring Meeting, April 10, 2024

- Speaker, “Key Trends in Antitrust, Privacy, Cybersecurity, Sanctions and Foreign Direct Investment: Hong Kong, EU, UK & US Perspectives,” Asian Academy of International Law, June 5, 2023
- Session Chair, *ESG Initiatives: Curbing Emissions or Competition?*, ABA Antitrust Law Spring Meeting, March 29, 2023
- Moderator, ABA Antitrust in Asia Roundtable, December 8, 2022
- Panelist, “Ronald McDonald goes to jail? - Collusion in labour markets,” GCR Live: Cartels, April 5, 2022
- Presenter, “What’s Next from the Biden Administration in Antitrust Enforcement? Considerations for Software Companies,” Webinar, February 9, 2022
- Vice Chair and Panelist, “The World of Cartels in 2021,” 2021 Antitrust Global Seminar Series: London, ABA Antitrust Law Section, November 17, 2021
- Panelist, “Antitrust Enforcement Update,” ABA National Institute on White Collar Crime, October 27, 2021
- Panelist, “Issues in Criminal Antitrust Enforcement,” USC Symposium on White Collar Corporate Enforcement and Individual Accountability, July 21, 2021
- Moderator, “Regulators Roundtable: Enforcement Priorities in the Region,” Competition Law Asia, July 13, 2021
- Moderator, “Cross-Cultural Differences at Trial,” CLA/NYBSA webinar, June 22, 2021
- Panelist, “International Cartel Cooperation: Has the Needle Moved?” ABA Antitrust Spring Meeting, March 24, 2021
- Panelist, “Cartel Enforcement Priorities of the New Administration,” GCR Interactive: Cartels, February 26, 2021
- Speaker, Q&A regarding competition enforcement in Hong Kong, IFLR Asia M&A Conference, June 23, 2020
- Television Interview, Q&A regarding the Hong Kong Competition Ordinance and Enforcement in Hong Kong, “HKIBC Television, All About Money,” June 2020
- Keynote Speaker, “Frequently Asked Questions in Hong Kong Competition Law,” British Chamber of Commerce in Hong Kong, May 7, 2020
- Panelist, “State of the Nation,” NZCC Competition Matters Conference, July 25, 2019
- Panelist, “Are penalties in New Zealand high enough to deter unlawful conduct or are they seen as a cost of doing business?” NZCC Competition Matters Conference, July 25, 2019
- Keynote Speaker, “The Digital Economy and Competition Enforcement in Hong Kong,” Hong Kong University, Conference on Platform Competition, June 20, 2019
- Panelist, “Regional Competition Enforcement Roundtable,” KNECT 365 Competition Law Asia Conference, June 12, 2019
- Panelist, “Hot Topics in Asia Competition Enforcement,” Concurrences Antitrust in Asia, May 24, 2019
- Panelist, “The Art of Competition Advocacy,” International Competition Network Annual Conference, May 15, 2019
- Keynote Speaker, “Hong Kong Competition Enforcement Update,” British Chamber of Commerce in Hong Kong, April 30, 2019
- Panelist, “Is There Life After Leniency?” ABA Antitrust Spring Meeting, March 27, 2019
- Panelist, “Implementation of Civil Means for Competition,” Seoul International Competition Forum, September 13, 2018
- Panelist, “Challenges and co-ordination of leniency programmes,” OECD, June 5, 2018
- Panelist, “A Conversation with Agency Leaders,” ABA Antitrust in Asia, June 1, 2018
- Keynote Speaker, “Formal Due Process and Informal Process in Hong Kong Competition Commission Investigations,” Concurrences Antitrust in Asia, May 18, 2018
- Panelist, “Managing Your Business in a Competitive Environment: What You Need to Know Challenges and Opportunities under the Competition Law,” Australia Chamber of Commerce of Hong Kong, April 25, 2018
- Panelist, “Fundamentals – Antitrust,” ABA Antitrust Spring Meeting, April 11, 2018
- Panelist, “Optimizing the Design & Coordination of Leniency for Cross-Border Enforcement,” International Competition Network Annual Conference, March 23, 2018
- Panelist, “Agency Effectiveness for Young Competition Agencies,” International Competition Network Annual Conference, March 22, 2018
- Speaker, Fireside Chat, American Chamber of Commerce of Hong Kong, February 27, 2018
- Panelist, “SMEs, Competition Law and Policy,” Manila Forum on Competition in Developing Countries, February 2, 2018
- Panelist, “Enforcers’ Roundtable,” ABA Antitrust in the Americas, June 2, 2017
- Speaker, “Enforcers’ Roundtable,” ABA Spring Meeting, March 31, 2017
- Panelist, “Hot Topics in International Antitrust Cooperation,” Georgetown International Antitrust Symposium, March 27, 2017
- Speaker, “Developments in the Antitrust Division’s Criminal Enforcement Program,” ABA National Institute on White Collar Crime, March 8, 2017

- Speaker, “Hong Kong Competition Enforcement Overview,” Asia Competition Forum, February 11, 2017
- Keynote Speaker, “Panelist, Trends in Enforcement Against Collusion,” GCR Live – Miami, February 3, 2017
- Speaker, “Civil & Criminal Competition Enforcement: A U.S. Perspective,” Chile FNE Competition Day Conference, November 17, 2016
- Panelist, “Information Exchange Among Competitors,” Seoul International Competition Forum, September 8, 2016
- Panelist, Taiwan International Conference on Competition Policy, June 29, 2016
- Panelist, “Enforcement Agencies’ Treatment of Firms that Self-Report,” NYU Program on Corporate Compliance & Enforcement, April 8, 2016
- Panelist, “Did the Enforcers Go Bananas in Dole v. Commission?” GCR Cartel Conference, April 5, 2016
- Panelist, “Agency Update with Deputy Assistant Attorneys General,” ABA Antitrust Spring Meeting, April 5, 2016
- Keynote Address, “Individual Accountability for Antitrust Crimes,” Yale Global Antitrust Enforcement Conference, February 19, 2016
- Panelist, “Predicting the Future: What is Next in Global Cartel Enforcement?” ABA International Cartel Workshop, February 5, 2016
- Keynote Speaker, “The Pros and Cons of Leniency and Criminalization,” Swedish Competition Authority, November 13, 2015
- Moderator, “Calculating Fines: Extraterritoriality,” International Competition Network Cartel Workshop, October 20, 2015
- Panelist, “International Cartel Enforcement,” International Bar Association Annual Conference, October 8, 2015
- Panelist, “Collaborations, Conversations, and Cartels,” Georgetown International Antitrust Enforcement Symposium, September 29, 2015
- Panelist, “Hot Topics in Cartel Enforcement,” ABA Antitrust in the Americas, June 11, 2015
- Speaker, “Leniency in Multi-jurisdictional Investigations – Too Much of a Good Thing?” Chicago Forum on International Antitrust, June 8, 2015
- Moderator, “History of the U.S. Corporate Leniency Program,” International Competition Network Annual Conference, April 29, 2015
- Panelist, “Agency Update with Deputy Assistant Attorneys General,” ABA Antitrust Spring Meeting, April 15, 2015
- Panelist, “Cartel Prosecution – Optimal Procedures, Optimal Sanctions,” Berlin Conference, March 27, 2015
- Moderator, “Advances in International Cooperation in the Fight Against Cartels,” International Competition Network Cartel Workshop, October 2, 2014
- Panelist, “Cartel Enforcement & Policy,” Georgetown International Antitrust Enforcement Symposium, September 10, 2014
- Keynote Speaker, “Compliance is a Culture, Not Just a Policy,” International Chamber of Commerce/United States Council of International Business Joint Antitrust Compliance Workshop, September 9, 2014
- Panelist, “Agency Update with Deputy Assistant Attorneys General,” ABA Antitrust Spring Meeting, March 26, 2014
- Panelist, ABA International Cartel Workshop (multiple panels and topics), February 19-21, 2014

VIDEO

"Criminal Antitrust Investigations," February 9, 2022

Antitrust Conversations: Criminal Antitrust Invest

Wilson Sonsini: Antitrust Conversations



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