

Aaron Gott

PARTNER / CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER

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📍 Minneapolis



Aaron Gott is a top-rated antitrust lawyer who focuses on antitrust and competition litigation, complex business litigation, challenges to government conduct, and appeals. Aaron has represented clients in dozens of antitrust cases, and served as lead counsel in a number of them. He has litigated high profile antitrust cases, including *FTC v Qualcomm*, *In re Disposable Contact Lens Antitrust Litigation*, *In re Capacitors Litigation*, *Salt River Agricultural Improvement District v. Tesla Energy*, and *North Carolina State Board of Dental Examiners v. FTC* (see representative matters for a more complete list). He has represented several parties before the U.S. Supreme Court and argued countless appeals in the U.S. Courts of Appeals. He is also one of the nation's leading lawyers on issues involving antitrust federalism and the state-action immunity. He counsels clients on a range of issues, including antitrust compliance, antitrust exemptions including farm cooperatives under the Capper-Volstead Act, and employment noncompete agreements.

Aaron is a combat veteran who served nearly a decade in the U.S. Army. He entered law school with over five years of professional writing experience as a newspaper editor and Army public affairs officer. His work has been published in newspapers throughout the country, trade magazines, academic journals, and government publications; he has received accolades from general officers, scholars, high-profile litigators, and federal judges. Aaron's legal scholarship has been called "meticulously researched and brilliantly argued," and showcased as "rigorous and elegant writing."

Aaron is recognized by Best Lawyers® as a leading antitrust litigator.

Education

J.D., The Florida State University College of Law

Magna Cum Laude

Honors and Activities:

Order of the Coif

Executive Editor, The Florida State University Law Review

Research Assistant to Professor Dan Markel
Research Assistant to Dean David E. Landau

B.A., Iowa State University

Political Science and Military Science

Government Service

United States Army (2003–2012)

Operation Iraqi Freedom 2004–2005 Force Protection Team Leader, Tenth Mountain Division and III Corps

Operation Enduring Freedom 2008–2010 Brigade Public Affairs Officer, First Army Division West

Admissions

U.S. Supreme Court

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 Eighth Circuit

U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit

U.S. Court of Appeals for the Tenth Circuit

Representative Matters

- People v. Vitol: Outside litigation counsel for the California Attorney General in a price fixing case against global gasoline trading firms.
- Defended one of the nation's largest trucking companies against class action allegations of a nationwide no-poaching conspiracy.
- Advised acclaimed software developer on complex business relationship issues.
- [Represented Restore the Fourth as amicus curiae supporting certiorari in Nichols v. Wayne County, a case challenging the constitutionality of civil asset forfeiture, before the U.S. Supreme Court.](#)
- Argued appeal of Lanham Act claim dismissal on behalf of nutrition supplement company at U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit [resulting in reversal and a significant precedential decision](#) (*Ariix v. NutriSearch et al.*).
- Outside U.S. general and litigation counsel to major online contact lens retailer.
- Defended egg producer in multiple class actions in federal district courts alleging violations of state price-gouging laws.
- Represented plaintiff software developer as deputy lead counsel in an [Atlanta federal antitrust lawsuit against utility management software monopolist](#) (*Lucasys v. PowerPlan*) that the court held.
- [Represented service-disabled veteran and his business in administrative challenge to California agency's unlawful interference with a competitively awarded U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs contract](#) in California state court.
- [Represented plaintiff as lead counsel in antitrust case against pharmaceutical associations](#) who wiped [pharmacy competition from the internet](#) (*PharmacyChecker.com v. NABP et al.*).
- [Represented plaintiff as lead counsel in federal antitrust lawsuit against City of Richmond, Virginia](#) and its corporate ambulance subsidiary for monopolizing the non-emergency ambulance market (*Metro Health EMS v. City of Richmond*).
- [Petitioned for writ of certiorari to U.S. Supreme Court on the scope of the state action immunity](#) and argued for a market participant exception to the doctrine (*AmeriCare v. City of Anaheim et al.*).

U.S. District Court for the Central District of California

U.S. District Court for the Northern District of California

U.S. District Court for the Southern District of California

U.S. District Court for the District of Minnesota

U.S. District Court for the District of Colorado

California

Minnesota

Accolades

SuperLawyers Rising Star 2019

SuperLawyers Rising Star 2020

SuperLawyers Rising Star 2021

SuperLawyers Rising Star 2022

- [Represented International Center for Law & Economics and a dozen legal and economics scholars as amicus curiae](#) supporting Qualcomm in *FTC v. Qualcomm* before the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit.
- Argued state action immunity issues to U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit [in case against California cities who monopolized a dozen ambulance markets.](#)
- [Represented NFIB Small Business Legal Center](#) as *amicus curiae* in U.S. Supreme Court, arguing that denials of state action immunity should not be immediately appealable (*Salt River Agri. Improvement & Power Dist. v. Tesla Energy*).
- [Represented plaintiff as lead counsel in antitrust case involving price-fixing and group-boycott conspiracies in the cement and ready mix industries](#) in Atlanta federal court. (*Southeast Ready Mix et al. v. Argos North America, Inc., et al.*).
- Appealed class certification on behalf of electronics manufacturer in antitrust MDL under Fed. R. Civ. P. 23(f) before the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit.
- Represented clinical research company seeking declaration of non-liability for trade secret misappropriation claimed by competitor in San Diego federal court. (*JEHM, LLC v. Palmtree Clinical Research, Inc.*).
- Represented plaintiff nutrition supplement company in federal Lanham Act false advertising case against competitor-sponsored review publication.
- [Represented National Federation of Independent Businesses Small Business Legal Center as amicus curiae in antitrust state-action immunity case at the U.S. Supreme Court.](#) (*Salt River v. Tesla Energy*).
- [Represented client in a dozen antitrust lawsuits against Orange County municipalities and private company for monopolizing the ambulance industry.](#)
- Defended one of the nation's largest online contact lens retailers against class action antitrust claims in federal Multi-District Litigation. (*In re Disposable Contact Lens Antitrust Litigation*).
- Defended Japanese capacitor manufacturer against class action antitrust claims in federal Multi-District Litigation. (*In re Capacitors Antitrust Litigation*).
- [Represented one of the nation's largest online contact lens retailers as amicus curiae](#) in the Federal Court of Appeals for the Tenth Circuit relating to challenge to Utah law prohibiting enforcement of Uniform Pricing Policies against contact lens retailers. (*Johnson & Johnson et al. v. Reyes*).
- Represented nonprofit complementary and alternative healthcare advocacy group [as amicus curiae](#) in federal antitrust case before the U.S. Supreme Court (*N.C. State Board of Dental Examiners v. FTC*).
- Represented association of rental property owners as [amicus curiae](#) in constitutional challenge to municipal rental ban. (*Dean et al. v. City of Winona*).
- Represented group of scholars of law and economics [as amicus curiae in constitutional challenge](#) to state medical device certificate-of-need regulation. (*Colon Health Centers of America v. Hazel*).
- Represented [National Federation of Independent Businesses Small Business Legal Center as amicus curiae in FOIA challenge](#) to EPA's proposed release of private business information to environmental interest groups (*Am. Farm Bureau Fed. v. U.S. EPA*).

Speeches & Presentations

- Panelist, Minnesota State Bar Association CLE, [The Farm Cooperative Antitrust Exemption under the Capper-Volstead Act](#), March 31, 2021.
- Panelist, ABA Section of Antitrust Law, [Friendly Advice: Amicus Perspectives on the FTC v. Qualcomm Case – June 23, 2020](#)
- Co-author, "[State certificate-of-need laws for hospitals must go](#)," Minneapolis Star Tribune, April 28, 2020.
- Radio Interview, KRVN/Rural Radio Network, [Agriculture and Antitrust](#), November 2019.
- Panelist, ABA Section of Antitrust Law, [NC Dental Amici: The Scope of the State Action Doctrine](#), April 2015.
- Presenter, Quimbee CLE, [Antitrust 101: Everything You Need to Know About When to Hire an Antitrust Lawyer](#), January 2022
- Presenter, Quimbee CLE, [Antitrust v. The Government: Litigating Government-Induced Competition Problems](#), June 2022
- Panelist, American Bar Association CLE, [Production Restraints During the Pandemic: Understanding Farm Cooperatives and the Capper-Volstead Act](#), November 19, 2021

Professional Associations & Bar Memberships

- **Federal Bar Association**
Minnesota Chapter
- **American Bar Association**
ABA Section of Antitrust Law
- **Minnesota State Bar Association**
Governing Council Member and Legislative Liaison, MSBA Antitrust Law Section

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