James S. Dugan
Senior Associate

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PRACTICE AREAS

- Antitrust and Unfair Competition
- Antitrust Counseling & Compliance
- Class Actions
- Indirect and Direct Purchaser Class Actions
- Securities/Securities Lending

BAR AND COURT ADMISSIONS

- State Court: Minnesota, California
- U.S. District Court: Northern District of California, Southern District of California, District of Minnesota, District of Nebraska

EDUCATION

- UC Berkeley School of Law, J.D., 2018
- University of Nebraska Omaha, B.S., *summa cum laude*, 2014

James is an attorney in Zelles Minneapolis office. His practice focuses on complex litigation, primarily in the antitrust field. James joined Zelle after spending two summers with the firm during law school. The trajectory of his caseload has remained consistent since then, with plaintiff-side representation in a variety of sectors playing the biggest role in his day-to-day work. James has represented classes and entities in price fixing and monopolization matters ranging from computer components and wave machines to vital pharmaceuticals. James was on trial teams that took two of these matters to jury verdict.

Along with his primary practice, James has maintained a focus on public interest advocacy work. While in law school, he was a co-leader of the Berkeley Law and Organizing Collective and also worked as a law clerk for Root and Rebound, a reentry legal resource center based in Oakland, California. Since then, James has continued to work with several organizations on a pro bono basis. In connection with TCHC, the Minnesota Habeas Project, and the ACLU of Nebraska, James has helped secure habeas corpus relief, including release from custody, on behalf of a dozen individuals illegally detained by ICE.

ARTICLES & PRESENTATIONS

"Judge Donato Rules on MSJ Dismissing UCL Claims But Not CIPA Claims", California Lawyers Association Antitrust and Unfair Competition Law E-Briefs, News and Notes, July 28, 2025, author

"Burger King Employees Persist After Renewed Motion to Dismiss",California Lawyers Association Antitrust and Unfair Competition Law E-Briefs, News and Notes, June 27, 2025, author

"The Unique Challenges of Obtaining Foreign Discovery", ABA Section of Antitrust Law Annual Spring Meeting, Virtual, March 23-26, 2021, co-author

"Indirect Purchaser Antitrust Standing Heads In New Direction," *Competition Law360,* July 2, 2020, co-author

"ACPERA: Reauthorization or Final Curtain?", ABA Section of Antitrust Law Annual Spring Meeting, Virtual, April of 2020, co-author

"Whos in Your Class? 2019 Hot Issues in Antitrust Class Action Litigation: Ascertainability and Uninjured Class Members", ABA Section of Antitrust Law Annual Spring Meeting, Washington, DC, March 26-29, 2019, co-author

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

American Bar Association, Antitrust Section, Young Lawyer Representative to the Agriculture and Food Committee (2021-2022) and (2023-2024)

National Lawyers Guild (Minnesota, 2023-present; S.F. Bay Area, 2018-2023)

PRO BONO ACTIVITIES

Recognized by the Minnesota State Bar Association as a North Star Lawyer for providing 50+ hours of pro bono services in 2024

NOTEWORTHY

Selected for inclusion in *Best Lawyers: Ones to Watch in America,* for Antitrust Law and Litigation Antitrust in 2026 and 2027.

Named to the Super Lawyers Northern California "Rising Stars" List 2022 and 2023 as a top-rated antitrust litigation attorney.