Christopher T. Micheletti
Partner

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PRACTICE AREAS

- Antitrust and Unfair Competition
- Breach of Contract
- Class Actions
- Commercial Litigation
- Corporate Plaintiff Affirmative Recovery
- Financial Services Litigation
- Indirect and Direct Purchaser Class Actions
- Property Insurance

BAR AND COURT ADMISSIONS

- State Court: California
- U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals: First, Sixth and Ninth Circuits
- U.S. District Court: Northern, Central, Eastern and Southern Districts of California

EDUCATION

- University of San Francisco, J.D., 1988; Recipient, American Jurisprudence Award for Remedies

Chris is an antitrust litigator with over 35 years of experience in the areas of antitrust litigation and class actions. Chris has represented individual and business plaintiffs in price-fixing, market allocation, monopolization, group boycott and other antitrust class actions. Chris has played central roles in the successful prosecution of numerous high-stakes California state and nationwide antitrust class actions, including all aspects of fact discovery, class certification proceedings, expert work, submissions and discovery, summary judgment, trial and settlement approval proceedings.

While Chris has focused primarily on antitrust class actions over the past 25+ years, the breadth of his experience in other areas, including in property insurance coverage litigation and all aspects of trademark, trade dress and trade secrets litigation, give him broader litigation perspectives and capabilities that benefit his clients in any complex commercial litigation he handles.

REPRESENTATIVE MATTERS

In re: Hard Disk Drive Suspension Assemblies Antitrust Litigation (N.D. Cal.). Chris is court-appointed co-lead counsel in this price fixing and market allocation class action brought by indirect purchaser end-users of HDD suspension assemblies. Among other successes, Chris and the plaintiffs team defeated defendants efforts to dismiss the end-user plaintiffs complaint, 2021 WL 4306018 (N.D. Cal. 2021), defeated defendants summary judgment motion based on the Foreign Trade Antitrust Improvements Act, 2024 WL 1354466 (N.D. Cal. 2024), and obtained class certification of a 29-state class of end-user purchasers of products containing allegedly price-fixed HDD suspension assemblies 2025 WL 71988 (N.D. Cal. 2025).

Jones, et al. v. Fanatics Inc., et al.,(S.D.N.Y.). Chris and the firm are court-appointed interim co-lead counsel in this action on behalf of indirect purchasers of pro sports trading cards asserting claims against Fanatics and major U.S. professional sports leagues for monopolization and unreasonable restraints of trade in the pro sports trading card market(s).

In Re: Passenger Vehicle Replacement Tires Antitrust Litigation (N.D. Ohio). Chris is a court-appointed member of End-Payor Plaintiffs Steering Committee in this action against tire manufacturers alleging price-fixing of passenger

- University of California at Berkeley, B.A., 1983

vehicle replacement tires in the U.S.

In Re: Concrete and Cement Additives Antitrust Litigation (S.D.N.Y.). Chris represents multiple construction business plaintiffs and the putative state classes of indirect purchasers of concrete, cement, and mortar admixtures (CCAs) in this action against manufacturers thereof alleging price-fixing of CCAs.

*In Re: Crop Protection Products Loyalty Program Antitrust Litigation (M.D. N.C.).*Chris represents a California farmer and the putative class of purchasers of crop protection products in this action against Syngenta and Corteva alleging that their loyalty agreements with crop protection product dealers unlawfully block rival makers of generic crop protection products from the market and insulate defendants from competition.

In Re: Local TV Advertising Antitrust Litigation (N.D. Ill.). Chris represents direct purchasers of broadcast television spot advertising in this class action alleging broadcast television advertisers engaged in unlawful agreements to share non-public competitively sensitive information with their competitors and harmed the competitive pricesetting process. Numerous defendants entered consent decrees with the U.S. Department of Justice in connection with the foregoing conduct. https://www.justice.gov/archives/opa/pr/justice-department-requires-six-broadcast-te Plaintiffs complaint was upheld by the district court in 2020. *See* 2020 WL 6557665. Chris has had key roles in discovery motion practice and depositions of key broadcast television company executives.

*In re: Domestic Airline Travel Antitrust Litigation (D.D.C).*Chris represents purchasers of domestic airline travel services against major airlines in this class action alleging anti-competitive capacity restriction by United Airlines, Delta Airlines, and other carriers. Chris has had key roles in discovery against United and Delta, including taking merits depositions of key airline executives, in plaintiffs successful opposition to defendants motion for summary judgment, and in plaintiffs motion for class certification. See*In re: Domestic Airline Travel Antitrust Litigation*, 691 F.Supp.3d 175 (D.D.C. 2023).

*In re Cathode Ray Tubes (CRT) Antitrust Litigation (N.D. Cal.).*Chris represents

multiple certified state classes in this action on behalf of indirect purchasers of CRTs. To date, the case has settlements of over $580 million. Chris played central roles in briefing and arguing class certification, expert work and discovery, trial preparation and settlement approval proceedings. 2013 WL 5429718 (N.D. Cal. 2013) (class certification report and recommendation); 2013 WL 5391159 (N.D. Cal. 2013) (order adopting class certification report and recommendation). In 2025, following spoliation-related terminating sanctions against the remaining Irico defendants, Chris and other plaintiffs attorneys tried damages issues to the Court. In March 2026, the Court accepted plaintiffs damages methodology, resulting in an estimated $1.8 billion in damages to end-user plaintiffs.

*In Re: Packaged Seafood Products Antitrust Litigation (S.D. Cal.).*Chris represents a certified class of indirect purchaser end-users of canned tuna products in this price-fixing action against canned tuna manufacturers. Chris played key roles in pleading motions, expert work, and class certification proceedings. The district courts granting of class certification was upheld in an important*en banc*decision by the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals, 31 F.4th 651 (9th Cir. 2022), and a settlement was reached with all remaining defendants in 2024.

*In re California Gasoline Spot Market Antitrust Litigation (N.D. Cal.).*Zelle is appointed to the Executive Committee in this antitrust class action on behalf of California consumers of gasoline, alleging that unlawful spot market trading and reporting tactics succeeded in manipulating the spot market pricing and driving up gas prices in the retail market. Chris has assisted co-lead counsel in a third-party discovery and other matters.This matter and the related action by the California Attorney General settled for a combined $63.9 million in 2024.

*In re: Railway Industry Employee No-Poach Antitrust Litigation (W.D. Pa).*Chris represented a settlement class representative and the settlement class in this action on behalf of employees of defendant rail equipment manufacturers, in which defendants entered illegal no-poach agreements not to hire each others employees. The case settled for $49 million.

In re Static Random Access Memory (SRAM) Antitrust Litigation (N.D. Cal.). Zelle was lead counsel in this class action on behalf of indirect purchasers of

SRAM in multiple states. Chris led the plaintiffs team in all aspects of this complex, price-fixing action, including obtaining the first favorable class certification ruling in an indirect purchaser electronic component part case in N.D. Cal., 264 F.R.D. 603 (N.D. Cal.), paving the way for numerous similar matters that followed. The case resulted in settlements of over $41 million.

*California Smokeless Tobacco Antitrust Litigation (San Francisco Superior Court).*Chris was a member of the Plaintiffs Executive Committee in this California Cartwright Act action on behalf of a class of California indirect purchasers of moist smokeless tobacco products. Chris had a central role in litigating and settling this monopolization claim for $96 million on behalf of the class.

ARTICLES & PRESENTATIONS

Rule of Reason Handbook (2026 Ed.), American Bar Association (ABA), Antitrust Section, contributing author

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

"Indirect Purchaser Cases in 2017: Key District Court Rulings,"*Competition Law360,*January 8, 2018, co-author

"Indirect Purchaser Cases in 2017: Key Appeals Court Rulings,"*Competition Law360,*January 5, 2018, co-author

False Advertising Class Actions: Practitioners Guide to Class Certification, Damages and Trial, Bar Association of San Francisco seminar, June 14, 2017, moderator

"2016 Highlights From Indirect Purchaser Class Actions,"*Competition Law360,*December 23, 2016, co-author

ABA Section of Antitrust Law,Indirect Purchaser Litigation Handbook, Second Edition (2016), contributing author

Food Labeling and False Advertising Class Actions panel presentation, Bar Association of San Francisco - Continuing Legal Education, San Francisco,

CA, May 13, 2015, moderator

"2 Years After*Comcast*, Little Has Changed,"*Competition Law360,*March 18, 2015, co-author

"In Search of BIGFOOT: Corrective Advertising Remedies in U.S. Trademark Infringement ActionsPart 2,"*INTA Bulletin*, January 15, 2015, author

"In Search of BIGFOOT: Corrective Advertising Remedies in U.S. Trademark Infringement ActionsPart 1,"*INTA Bulletin*, January 1, 2015, author

The California Difference: Why California Really Matters A Symposium Indirect Purchaser Standing Under California Antitrust Law and Federal Antitrust Law Plaintiff Perspective,*The Journal of the Antitrust and Unfair Competition Law Section of the State Bar of California,*Competition Vol. 22, No. 2, Fall 2013, author

"Incentive Award Guidance From Recent Class Actions,"*Competition Law360,*September 6, 2013, co-author

Class Actions and Other Aggregate Litigation - New Supreme Court Cases on Evidentiary Standards: When do Plaintiffs Need to Prove What, and How Do They Need to Do That? Law Seminars International 9th Annual Conference, Seattle, WA, May 13, 2013, co-panelist

"Indirect-Purchaser Exceptions To Illinois Brick Continue,"*Competition Law360,*January 25, 2013, co-author

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Bar Association of San Francisco: Member, Antitrust Section, Litigation Section and Intellectual Property Section.

Bar Association of San Francisco, Litigation Section, Member, Executive Committee, 2014-2017.

American Bar Association: Member, Antitrust Law Section.

Committee to Support the Antitrust Laws (COSAL): Member, Executive

Committee.

International Trademark Association: Member, Bulletin Committee and Features Subcommittee 2014-2015.

International Trademark Association: Member, Editorial Board of the International Trademark Associations Trademark Reporter Committee, 2002-2007 and 2010-2013.

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Legal Aid At Work: Member, Board of Directors, 2011-present; Member, Development Committee, 2013-present

NOTEWORTHY

Recognized in Band 2 by the Chambers USA Guide for the California Antitrust: Mainly Plaintiff category, 2024, 2025.

Selected as among *The Best Lawyers in America* in Antitrust Law in 2014-2027. The Best Lawyers in America recognizes only the top 5.3% of elite lawyers in the nation across 150 practice areas.

Selected to Lexology Indexs Thought Leaders USA 2025 in the category of Competition - Plaintiff.

Whos Who Legal: Competition by Global Competition Review named Chris a Global Leader in Plaintiffs Competition in 2022, describing Chris as a deeply experienced litigator who receives widespread praise from market commentators for his top-notch antitrust practice. Chris was also named a Thought Leader in 2023 and 2024, which the publication describes as individuals worthy of special mention owing not only to their vast expertise and experience advising on some of the worlds most significant and cutting-edge legal matters, but also their ability to innovate, inspire, and go above and beyond to deliver for their clients. Chris was also recommended by Whos Who Legal: Competition in 2019 2024.

Named a Northern California "Super Lawyer" in Antitrust, Business and/or

ZELLE LLP

Christopher T. Micheletti

Intellectual Property Litigation in 2004, 2005, 2010, and 2014-2026.

Benchmark Litigation named Chris a California Litigation Star in Competition/Antitrust and General Commercial litigation in 2019-2025.

The Legal 500 review of Zelle LLP in Plaintiffs Competition has recognized Chris as a pragmatic . . , determined and highly skilled litigator.

Cited in the *The Legal 500 US* ranking of the firm for Antitrust Civil Litigation/Class Actions: Plaintiff in the United States, 2024, 2025

Lawdragon included Chris among its "500 Leading Plaintiff Financial Lawyers" in 20192026.

The *Daily Journal* included Chris in its list of Top Antitrust Lawyers in California in 2020.

NEWS

Zelle Attorneys Named Among 2026 Northern California Super Lawyers and Rising Stars

PAST PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Furth, Fahrner & Mason, San Francisco, 1988-2000