HUSCH BLACKWELL



Matthew P. Diehr

PARTNER

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OVERVIEW

Matt leads the firm's State Attorneys General Practice, focusing his practice primarily on representing clients in high-stakes antitrust and commercial litigation matters, and in civil and criminal investigations and litigation brought by State Attorneys General and the federal government.

Matt concentrates his practice on representing clients facing enterprise-threatening commercial litigation, defending clients and their businesses in state and federal courts across the country. He has a successful track record at trial and is known as a talented writer who can win a case through dispositive motion practice.

As co-founder and leader of the firm's State Attorneys General group, Matt has also built a national practice that has grown alongside client needs. He frequently interfaces with State Attorneys General across the country, advocating for clients on important policy positions and cases of national importance and supporting clients through sensitive litigation, antitrust matters, and multi-state investigations and regulatory enforcement matters brought by State Attorneys General. Matt routinely represents clients facing scrutiny from the Federal Trade Commission and DOJ Antitrust, both in the context of merger review and conduct investigations.

Matt's recent successes include:

Industries

Manufacturing
Technology
Transportation

Services

Antitrust & Competition
Antitrust Litigation
Appellate
False Claims Act
Litigation & Alternative Dispute Resolution
State Attorneys General Practice
White Collar, Internal Investigations, & Compliance

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- Counseled clients applying for and receiving corporate leniency from DOJ Antitrust. No criminal charges were filed against the client.
- Represented GKN Aerospace Inc. and parent Melrose Industries in complex commercial dispute with The Boeing Company in St. Louis County Court and United States District Court for the Eastern District of Missouri. The matter was resolved with a confidential settlement.
- Represented clients investigated by DOJ Antitrust in alleged wage-fixing conspiracy. No criminal charges were filed against the client.
- Represented an agricultural coalition that obtained preliminary injunction against enforcement of California's Proposition 65 warning requirement on First Amendment grounds; case currently stands as the only time a federal court has enjoined a Proposition 65 warning requirement on First Amendment grounds.
- Represented client facing scrutiny of Federal Trade Commission and DOJ Antitrust relative to merger review investigations of alleged violations of the antitrust laws.
- Represented a high-ranking executive in the telecommunications industry accused of conspiracies to commit wire fraud, mail fraud, and money laundering. United States vs. Pajaczkowski, S.D.N.Y., 15-cr-606. Despite sentencing guidelines suggesting 20-25 years of incarceration, the client was sentenced only to time served.
- As first-chair trial counsel, obtained sizable jury verdict for compensatory damages in U.S. District Court, Eastern District of Missouri.
- Represented a medical provider in complex commercial litigation matters in federal court involving allegations of violations of the antitrust laws, Sherman Act sections 1 and 2.

Experience

LITIGATION

- Counsel for Melrose Industries and GKN Aerospace companies in complex commercial litigation with a large aerospace customer. (*The Boeing Company v. Melrose Industries PLC, et al.*, No. 22SL-CC05336, Circuit Court of St. Louis County, Missouri)

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Experience

- Represented client facing scrutiny of Federal Trade Commission and DOJ Antitrust relative to merger review investigations of alleged violations of the antitrust laws.
- As first-chair trial counsel, obtained sizable jury verdict for compensatory damages in U.S. District Court, Eastern District of Missouri. (*Williams v. Tate, et al.,* No. 4:17-cv-1282-JCH, U.S. District Court, Eastern District of Missouri)
- Ninth Circuit affirmed injunction from the District Court, Eastern District of California, against enforcement of California's Proposition 65 warning requirement as to the herbicide glyphosate on First Amendment grounds, because the cancer warning would be misleading and factually controversial as to glyphosate. This currently stands as the only time a federal court has enjoined a Proposition 65 warning requirement on First Amendment grounds. The case remains pending before the district court. (*National Association of Wheat Growers v. Zeise*, 309 F. Supp. 3d 842, 849, E.D. Cal. 2018)
- Obtained one of the first ever permanent injunctions under Defend Trade Secret Acts (DTSA) in a high-profile corporate espionage and deceptive trade secrets case. (*Monsanto Company et al v. Chen*, No. 4:16-cv-00876-CDP, U.S. District Court, Eastern District of Missouri)
- As first-chair trial counsel, obtained jury verdict for compensatory and punitive damages in U.S. District Court, Southern District of Illinois. (*Ford v. Wexford Health Source, et al.*, No. 3:11-cv-992-PMF, U.S. District Court, Southern District of Illinois)
- Successfully represented a high-ranking executive in the telecommunications industry accused of conspiracies to commit wire fraud, mail fraud, and money laundering. *United States vs. Pajaczkowski*, S.D.N.Y., 15-cr-606. Despite sentencing guidelines suggesting 20-25 years of incarceration, the client was sentenced only to time served.
- Successfully petitioned the Eighth Circuit Court of Appeals for a rare writ of mandamus compelling the U.S. District Court to recognize our client as victim of a Ponzi scheme, allowing client to receive restitution as the victim of a federal financial crime. (*In re Michael Ursch*, No. 15-1859, U.S. Court of Appeals, Eighth Circuit)

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Experience

INVESTIGATIONS

- Counseled clients applying for and receiving corporate leniency from DOJ Antitrust. No criminal charges were filed against the client.
- Conducted high-profile investigation for Kansas City Public Schools concerning allegations of false attendance records.
- Representing a medical provider in a DOJ investigation alleging improper pricing; matter resolved with no press attention for a fraction of predicted penalties.
- Represented clients investigated by DOJ Antitrust in alleged wage-fixing conspiracy. No criminal charges were filed against the client.
- Counseled grand jury subpoena recipients in "Operation Varsity Blues" matter initiated by United States Attorney's Office for District of Massachusetts. No criminal charges were filed against the client.
- Conducted numerous internal investigations for publicly traded and privately held companies in a variety of industries, including sustainable agriculture, healthcare, manufacturing, defense contracting and religious organizations in the areas of trade secret theft, healthcare fraud, employee misconduct, and environmental violations, among others.
- Member of team that successfully represented employees of a Major League Baseball team in a data breach, corporate espionage matter.

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Recognition

- *The Best Lawyers in America®*
  - Appellate Practice, 2024-2027
  - Criminal Defense: White-Collar, 2027
- *Benchmark Litigation*
  - Future Star, 2026
  - 40 & Under List, 2023 and 2024
- *Missouri Lawyers Media,* POWER List for White Collar Defense, 2020-2022
- *Missouri & Kansas Super Lawyers*, Litigation, Rising Star, 2018-2019

Education

- J.D., Saint Louis University School of Law
- B.A., Tulane University

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Admissions

- Missouri
- U.S. District Court, Eastern District of Missouri
- U.S. District Court, Western District of Missouri
- Illinois
- U.S. District Court, Southern District of Illinois
- U.S. District Court, District of Kansas
- U.S. District Court, District of Colorado
- U.S. Court of Appeals, Eighth Circuit
- U.S. Court of Appeals, Ninth Circuit
- U.S. Court of Appeals, Tenth Circuit



2026 Benchmark Litigation - Future Star

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