

## **Antitrust & Trade Regulation Section**

*William M. Rubenstein, Chair*

### **Purpose**

The purpose of the Antitrust and Trade Regulation Section is to familiarize members of the section and the Connecticut bar with all aspects of unfair trade practices, trade regulation, and state and federal antitrust law; to allow them to stay abreast of current legal and legislative developments in these areas; and to encourage professional development and relationships.

### **Annual Report**

The Antitrust and Trade Regulation Section has gone through a leadership-transition year as Philip Wellman, section chair for the past few years, passed the baton to new officers. The section has been well-served by Phil's leadership, vision, and dedication to advancing section's members' practical and scholarly understanding of antitrust and trade regulation law. We thank him for his service.

This year, the section was again blessed with the active participation of lawyers across a broad range of practices from all parts of the state at its meetings and programs, including in-house corporate counsel, government enforcers, and counselors and litigators from private firms of all sizes. The fulsome collective perspective of these practitioners has enriched the dialogue at all section events.

The section's programs this year have centered in two areas: government enforcement and significant new legal developments. Program sessions on government enforcement included presentations about recent enforcement initiatives and priorities by Michael Cole, head of the Connecticut Attorney General's Antitrust Department; Ralph Giordano, chief of the New York Regional Office of the Antitrust Division of the United States Department of Justice; and Pamela Jones Harbor, commissioner of the Federal Trade Commission. Section members also participated in the Financial Institutions Section's program featuring counsel for the United States Comptroller of the Currency. Additionally, this year was a particularly active year in the antitrust area for the United States Supreme Court. The section held roundtable discussions on the three significant antitrust decisions issued this term.

In addition to having a new chair this year, the section was served by a new secretary, Michael Shea, and a new treasurer, Suzanne Wachsstock.

The Antitrust and Trade Regulation Section looks forward to actively continuing its role in the professional development of its members. The executive committee is already at work planning next year's programs for its members and developing two continuing legal education programs for the entire bar, both of which it hopes will be presented in the fall. Finally, the section could not have had as successful year without the hard work and dedication of its executive committee and the CBA staff, all of whom are owed a great debt of gratitude.