



Trial Lawyers



## MELISSA H. MAXMAN

Partner

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### PERSONAL BIOGRAPHY

**Melissa H. Maxman** is managing partner of Cohen & Gresser's Washington, DC office and an accomplished litigator with decades of experience in antitrust, RICO, environmental, white-collar and other complex disputes. She advises domestic and international corporations on global antitrust issues and has represented clients before the DOJ and FTC, and in high-stakes private litigation. She has successfully litigated cases in federal and state courts nationwide and is widely recognised across leading legal rankings for her strategic insight and courtroom skill. A respected thought leader, she regularly publishes and speaks on emerging trends in competition and compliance.

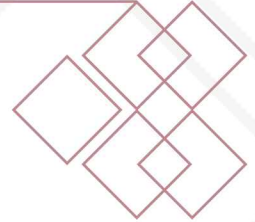
**COHEN & GRESSER LLP**

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## Q&amp;A WITH MELISSA H. MAXMAN

**What standout moments in your career have significantly shaped your professional journey?**

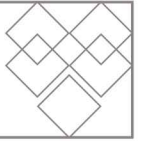
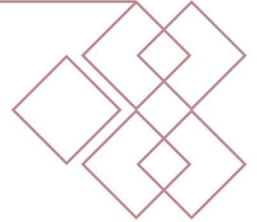
◆ In 1987, I was elected editor-in-chief of volume 86 of The Michigan Law Review, becoming only the sixth woman to hold that position in the journal's 86-year history. At the time, just 30 percent of my Michigan Law class were women, so this made me somewhat of a unicorn, long before today's conversations around affirmative action and diversity, equity and inclusion. Other important milestones flowed, at least in part, from that accomplishment. I went on to clerk for the US Court of Appeals for the DC Circuit, and in 1990, I was hired as an assistant US attorney in the Eastern District of Pennsylvania, where I learned how to try a case. Looking back, I have no doubt that the honour of serving as editor-in-chief played a major role in shaping my legal career.

**What qualities and values do you believe are essential for building strong, trusting relationships with clients?**

◆ The most important thing I do for my clients is listen, closely and continually. I listen to their facts, goals, concerns and how they define success, which varies as much as individual personalities. Only with a full understanding of their situation can I craft a strategy that uses the right legal tools to get them as close as possible to their desired outcome. But listening once is not enough. Situations evolve, and so do client needs. Staying attuned throughout the process is essential. In a demanding field like antitrust litigation, every lawyer must be fluent in the law. What sets great advocacy apart is mastering the facts and applying the law with precision and creativity. One of the highest compliments I can receive is when a client tells me I truly understand their business, and what they need to move it forward.

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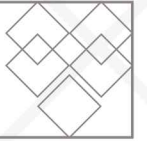
**Could you discuss a particularly rewarding project or case you have worked on? What made it stand out for you?**

◆ I love what I do in the antitrust space. After nine years outside of BigLaw, it is rewarding to take on impactful matters without the conflict constraints that can limit client choice. I have had the opportunity to represent strong, independent companies, such as DuckDuckGo in the Department of Justice's (DOJ's) case against Google, Roku in the Federal Trade Commission's (FTC's) Amazon investigation, and SeatGeek in the DOJ's Ticketmaster matter. I am especially grateful that my firm supports meaningful pro bono work. Early in the pandemic, I led a team that secured compassionate release for a nonviolent drug offender with asthma. With strong family support, the judge released him to home detention and a rehab programme. Five years later, he is still drug-free and supports himself with the help of family. And he is alive. That experience will always stay with me. It may sound corny, but helping people like him is why I became a lawyer. ■

**“STAYING ATTUNED THROUGHOUT THE PROCESS IS ESSENTIAL. IN A DEMANDING FIELD LIKE ANTITRUST LITIGATION, EVERY LAWYER MUST BE FLUENT IN THE LAW. WHAT SETS GREAT ADVOCACY APART IS MASTERING THE FACTS AND APPLYING THE LAW WITH PRECISION AND CREATIVITY.”**

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**REPRESENTATIVE ENGAGEMENTS**

- ◆ Representing SeatGeek as a third party in a high-profile monopolisation lawsuit brought by the DOJ and 39 state attorneys general against Live Nation and Ticketmaster, pending in the Southern District of New York.
- ◆ Served as primary antitrust counsel to Roku as a third party in multiple civil investigations and litigation brought by the FTC and various state attorneys general. These matters involved the conduct of Big Tech companies (Amazon, Google, Facebook and Apple) and directly impacted Roku's business interests.
- ◆ Represented DuckDuckGo as a third party in landmark federal and state antitrust lawsuits against Google, consolidated in the US District Court for the District of Columbia. The suits alleged that Google unlawfully monopolised key digital advertising and general search markets in violation of section 2 of the Sherman Act.
- ◆ Defended a gasoline and diesel distribution company in private antitrust litigation alleging monopolistic behaviour.

