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TRAILBLAZERS

MERGERS & ACQUISITIONS and ANTITRUST

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PIONEER SPIRIT Andrea Agathoklis Murino majored in economics in college. "The classes I enjoyed most were industrial organization and microeconomics. In law school, I wanted to keep working in the same area. One of my first-year professors, William Kovacic, was an expert in antitrust. It was a professional match made in heaven."

TRAILS BLAZED Murino worked at both the Federal Trade Commission and Department of Justice. "Very few have worked at both. I served Republican administrations at the FTC and Democratic ones at the DOJ. I got a wide view into the processes, protocols and people at each agency. This benefits the client quite a bit." She now co-chairs the firm's antitrust and competition practice and chairs the D.C. office. Murino and her team have resolved a number of second requests over the past 18 months. "They have all been cleared without an enforcement action. We've been on a great streak." Among her other experiences, Murino represented several Boston health care providers in successfully blocking Partners HealthCare from acquiring two other entities. "It was the first time a state court rejected a proposed antitrust settlement authored by the Massachusetts attorney general's office. We were able to draw attention to the ways the deal would be harmful. And eventually the judge agreed that the deal would not be in the public interest."



FUTURE EXPLORATIONS Antitrust is at a particularly interesting moment. "Attorneys general, the FTC, DOJ and international enforcement authorities are so comprehensive. Public policy is getting interjected. It's harder to know what the outcome will be, but there is more room for creativity. That makes my job so much more interesting. Often arguments that have never been made before can convince the FTC, DOJ and other enforcers to do something or not do something."