

Crowell & Moring Adds Ex-DOJ, FTC Antitrust Attys In DC, NY

By **Alison Knezevich**

Law360 (September 16, 2026, 4:20 PM EDT) -- Crowell & Moring LLP on Wednesday announced the hiring of two former enforcement attorneys from the U.S. Department of Justice and the Federal Trade Commission for its antitrust and competition group, with the firm saying it plans more growth of the practice soon.

Former DOJ Antitrust Division attorney Rebecca Valentine joined Crowell & Moring as a partner in Washington, D.C., the firm said. Former FTC attorney Ryan Harsch is set to join the firm as a senior counsel in New York.

"We're thrilled to bring more antitrust-focused government experience to Crowell, as companies face an increasingly complex merger review process that often involves layers of scrutiny at multiple levels of government spanning various regional jurisdictions," Dan Sasse, chair of the antitrust and competition group, said in a statement.

The firm said in its announcement of the hires that additional growth of the practice group "is expected in the coming weeks."

Valentine told Law360 Pulse on Wednesday she joined the DOJ in 2015 and left in July. She worked in the Defense, Industrials and Aerospace Section, but also has experience in antitrust work involving consumer products and healthcare, she said.

Valentine, who started at Crowell & Moring last week, said the firm's strengths matched well with her experience, particularly in government contracting.

"There is a lot of need from the business community to have some good counseling and also some good representation before the agencies on deals," she said.

Valentine previously worked in private practice at Latham & Watkins LLP and Mayer Brown LLP.

As a government attorney, she reviewed corporate mergers and led investigations and challenges, according to her firm biography. She also served on a detail in 2023 as international counsel at the Antitrust Division, where she handled work involving the Asia-Pacific region, cross-border mergers and trade issues.

Harsch also spent more than a decade with the federal government, having joined the FTC in 2015, the



Rebecca Valentine



Ryan Harsch

firm said, adding that his practice there touched on industries including healthcare, technology and consumer products. He worked in the agency's Bureau of Competition, leading investigations and litigating merger challenges.

His previous experience includes working at Greenberg Traurig LLP, according to his LinkedIn profile.

"I'm grateful to be joining a team with such a diverse array of government and private sector experience as part of Crowell's antitrust and competition group," Harsch said in a statement from the firm.

Addie Cliffe, co-chair of the firm's government contracts group, said in a statement that Valentine and Harsch's enforcement experience "will be invaluable to government contractors navigating transactions, collaborations and other business decisions under heightened antitrust scrutiny."

Valentine graduated from law school at Vanderbilt University, and Harsch is a graduate of the University of Virginia School of Law, according to their LinkedIn profiles. Both attorneys earned undergraduate degrees at Duke University.

--Editing by Robert Rudinger.