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ABA SECTION REPORTS

■ ANTITRUST

A new president will bring changes to the practice

By James A. Wilson

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THE TRANSITION TO a new presidential administration in Washington, and in particular the changes such a transition will bring to U.S. antitrust enforcement, will be a central focus in the coming year for the Section of Antitrust Law, which is the world's largest group of competition lawyers. At the same time, the section will continue its focus on the many changes occurring in international competition law and enforcement. This year, the section will strengthen existing activities, as well as initiate new ones, designed to accomplish its twin missions: assisting antitrust and consumer protection attorneys in their practice, and serving the public interest by promoting effective competition law and policy around the world.

Transitions in antitrust enforcement, both in the United States and internationally, will occupy much of the section's attention in the coming year. The section has already begun preparing a transition report, designed to give the new administration neutral and well-grounded advice concerning past and future enforcement priorities. As the priorities of a new administration become clear, the section looks forward to engaging in constructive discussion as to the benefits and consequences of changes in enforcement policy and priorities. Likewise, as competition law and enforcement continue to evolve and grow in other jurisdictions, the section will continue to provide its insights into proposed changes in policy or enforcement around the world.

A key element of the section's mission is to assist its members in their daily practice by offering a wide

range of competition law resources. The section has more than 100 books in print, including the recently issued sixth edition of its multivolume treatise, *Antitrust Law Developments*, and is looking forward to publication of companion volumes, *Consumer Protection Law Developments* and *State Antitrust Practice and Statutes* (Fourth ed.). The section's three principal periodicals (*Antitrust Law Journal*, *Antitrust* magazine, and the on-line *Antitrust Source*) are among the antitrust publications most cited in judicial decisions and offer section members timely coverage of key issues. Each year, the section publishes about 70 committee newsletters and conducts about the same number of telephonic programs addressing developments in the law. In the coming year, the section hopes to make available a daily e-mail report of antitrust news to all section members.

The section's annual spring meeting is the world's largest gathering of competition lawyers, drawing more than 2,000 attendees from the United States and abroad. **NLJ**

James A. Wilson is chair-elect of the Section of Antitrust Law and a partner in the Columbus, Ohio, headquarters of Vorys, Sater, Seymour and Pease. For more information about the section, see www.abanet.org/antitrust.

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