

ECONIC PARTNERS

CATHERINE BARRON

Econic Partners
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PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Econic Partners, LLC

- *Managing Partner*, January 2025 - present

Compass Lexecon (and predecessor organizations) Boston, MA and Washington, DC

- *Executive Vice President and Managing Director, East Coast Competition*, April 2023 – January 2025
- *Managing Director, East Coast Competition*, April 2020 – April 2023
- *Senior Vice President and Managing Director, Washington DC*, April 2017 – April 2020
- *Vice President*, April 2012 - April 2017
- *Senior Economist*, 2005-March 2012
- *Economist*, 2000 - 2005
- *Senior Analyst*, 1998 - 2000
- *Analyst*, 1996 - 1998

Provided strategic leadership and managed the operations of the East Coast Competition practice, including developing and directing the implementation of strategies related to recruiting, training, staffing, performance management, staff retention, and career progression.

Provided economic analysis for proposed mergers and complex antitrust litigation across a range of industries. Managed case teams, directed analysis, and developed written testimony related to the economic analysis of market definition, class certification, liability and damages.

EDUCATION

John F. Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA
Master in Public Policy, 2001

Thesis: “Managing Success: Business Development Strategies for Loudoun County, Virginia.”

Smith College, Northampton, MA
B.A. *cum laude*, Economics, 1996

SELECTED CONSULTING EXPERIENCE

For an international candy company

Contributed to the analysis of the economic drivers of price for key ingredients and developed analysis to inform advocacy around internal and external policy changes. (2024)

Federal Trade Commission v. Tapestry, Inc. et al.

Supported the expert testimony of Dr. Loren K. Smith on behalf of the Federal Trade Commission in the matter of Federal Trade Commission v. Tapestry, Inc. et al. (2024)

10X Genomics, Inc. and Fellows of Harvard College v. Bruker Spatial Biology, Inc. et al.

Supported the expert testimony of Dr. Mark A. Israel on behalf of 10x Genomics Inc. in the matter of 10X Genomics, Inc. and Fellows of Harvard College v. Bruker Spatial Biology, Inc. et al. (2024)

Endure Industries, Inc. v. Vizient, Inc. et al.

Managed team and supported expert testimony analyzing the anticompetitive effects of GPO contracting practices. (2023)

For a joint defense group

Contributed to the analysis of alleged anticompetitive conduct in the railroad industry. (2023)

For a proposed merger in the textbook publishing industry

Managed team supporting expert analysis of potential competitive effects of the proposed merger of a textbook publishing company and educational assessment firm. (2023)

For a large food distributor

Lead team supporting expert testimony analyzing the reasonableness of a proposed settlement agreement, including rebutting opposing expert testimony. (2023)

Norfolk Southern Railroad

Supported expert testimony analyzing the economic implications of proposed changes to the Surface Transportation Board's reciprocal switching regulations. (2022, 2023)

Norfolk Southern Railroad

Contributed to expert testimony analyzing the economic implications of proposed changes to the Surface Transportation Board's analysis of on Commodity, Boxcar, and TOFC/COFC exemptions. (2021)

Sutter Health

Supported expert testimony analyzing the allegations of anticompetitive conduct. (2019, 2020, 2021, 2022)

Association of American Railroads

Contributed to analysis of the economic implications of proposed changes to the Surface Transportation Board's rate review process with a specific focus on recommendations related to revenue adequacy. (2019)

For a proposed merger in the shipping industry

Contributed to analysis of potential competitive impacts of proposed merger, including analysis of competitors and potential entry. (2018)

For a Native American Tribe

Managed team that evaluated the economic impact of tax policy in connection with litigation of state and local taxing authority. (2017)

For proposed merger in the health insurance industry

Contributed to analysis of proposed merger, including analysis of competitive alternatives in specific insurance markets. (2016)

CSXT

Lead team analyzing the economic implications of proposed changes to regulations governing competitive access rules in the rail industry. (2016)

Association of American Railroads

Lead team analyzing the economic implications of proposed changes to the Surface Transportation Board's policy on Commodity, Boxcar, and TOFC/COFC exemptions. (2016)

For a proposed merger in the communications industry

Contributed to analysis of potential competitive impacts of proposed merger, including analysis of competitors and potential entry. (2015)

For a proposed merger in the pharmaceutical industry

Managed case team analyzing competition and potential merger-related impacts, including impacts on incentives for innovation. (2014)

For TTX Company

Managed case team that analyzed the public benefits and competitive impacts of railcar pooling in connection with the reauthorization of TTX's railcar pooling authority. (2014)

For a Group of Railroad Defendants

Contributed to testimony analyzing allegations of anticompetitive conduct surrounding fuel surcharges in the rail industry. (2012-2013)

CSX Corp.

Contributed to testimony analyzing proposed changes to the analytical framework used by the Surface Transportation Board for assessing qualitative market dominance. (2012)

Government of Canada

Analyzed pricing patterns and the implications of timber pricing policies on lumber markets in connection with the Softwood Lumber Arbitration. (2011-2012)

Association of American Railroads

Lead team analyzing the economic implications of proposed changes to regulations governing competitive access rules in the rail industry. (2011)

Intercontinental Terminal Company, LLC

Managed team analyzing allegations of anticompetitive conduct, including claims of denial of access, violations of the essential facilities doctrine, and issues surrounding damages claims. (2011)

T-Mobile

Managed team compiling data in response to Hart-Scott-Rodino Second Request. (2011)

BNSF Railway Company

Analyzed economic issues related to regulation of coal dust emissions. (2010)

For a Health Care Provider

Contributed to analysis of proposed acquisition of assets and prepared analysis to be presented to Federal regulatory agency. (2010)

United States Department of Agriculture

Lead team that analyzed claims of discriminatory lending practices related to agricultural loan programs and contributed to expert testimony. (2009)

For a Native American Tribe

Conducted analysis of economic development opportunities regarding railroad and rail-related industries on tribal land. (2008 - 2009)

DRAM Litigation

Contributed to expert testimony analyzing claims of anticompetitive conduct in the DRAM industry. (2008)

For a Native American Tribe

Lead team that evaluated Tribal business and government practices and provided analysis related to disputes over appropriate tax policy. (2007)

Western Refining, Inc.

Contributed to testimony examining the proposed merger of Western Refining, Inc. and Giant Industries, Inc, including an analysis of relevant markets and the evaluation of alleged merger-related competitive harms. (2007)

Hanson Building Materials N.A.

Managed team that analyzed claims related to a dispute over royalty payments on sand mined in San Francisco Bay and offered framework for proper royalty payment methodology. (2007)

TAPS Carriers

Contributed to testimony analyzing disputes over the implementation of the TAPS Settlement Methodology and the establishment of just and reasonable rates on the TAPS pipeline. (2006)

A Group of Cable Programming Networks

Gathered and analyzed data regarding music use on cable television and evaluated music licensing fees. (2006, updated 2008)

SBC Communications, Inc.

Managed analysis and contributed to expert testimony examining the economic implications of proposed modifications to regulations governing special access services in the telecommunications industry. (2005)

CSX Corporation

Conducted analysis of railroad industry performance in connection with a dispute surrounding asset valuations and property tax assessments. (2004)

Texas New Mexico Power Company

Managed case team evaluating the auction process employed to divest certain generation assets and other components of stranded costs incurred as a result of the transition to competition in the electricity industry in Texas. (2004)

For TTX Company

Managed case team that analyzed the public benefits and competitive impacts of railcar pooling in connection with the reauthorization of TTX's railcar pooling authority. (2004)

The Burlington Northern & Santa Fe Railway Company

Directed analysis of alleged anticompetitive conduct regarding transloading facilities and services. (2003)

Dex Holdings, LLC

Managed analysis regarding regulatory review of asset purchase and sale. (2003)

Ticketmaster Corporation

Managed case involving the evaluation of damages associated with asserted anti-competitive conduct. (2003)

Elkem Metals Company and CC Metals & Alloys, Inc.

Managed analysis of pricing behavior in domestic ferrosilicon market for proceedings before the United States International Trade Commission. (2002)

American Quarter Horse Association

Contributed to analysis of alleged anticompetitive behavior related to breeding practices. (2002)

Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railway Company

Managed case involving the analysis of forecasts and forecasting methodology in conjunction with a Stand Alone Cost case before the Surface Transportation Board. (2002)

For a group of internet broadcasters

Provided support for an arbitration proceeding involving the valuation of the right of public performance of digital sound recordings and ephemeral recordings over the internet. (2001)

Bass Enterprises Production Company

Assessed fair market rental value of oil-bearing property temporarily taken by the federal government. (2000)

Biomedical Systems Corporation

Managed case involving a damages calculation in a medical device breach of contract suit stemming from the failure of the defendant to both manufacture and seek regulatory approval for a new device developed by the plaintiff. (2000)

Rockwell Collins, Inc.

Contributed to analysis of competition and procurement practices for an antitrust lawsuit in the avionics industry. (2000)

Exxon Corporation

Performed analysis of the pricing of crude oil within the state of California. Analyzed pricing provisions of oil contracts involving in defense of claim of crude oil undervaluation on part of the company by the State of California. (1999)

Association of American Railroads

Participated in an analysis of the economic framework of the Surface Transportation Board's market dominance and competitive access guidelines. (1998)

CSX Corporation/CSX Transportation

Contributed to the analysis of competitive effects of Conrail transaction for use in testimony before the Surface Transportation Board. (1997)

Honeywell, Inc.

Member of team responsible for assessing damages associated with alleged antitrust activity in the market for airline electronics. Analysis focused on assessing the potential anti-competitive effects of contract structures found within the airline manufacturing industry and the economic implications of various buyer and seller strategies in markets with limited participants. (1997-1998)

Fond du Lac Band of Chippewa Indians

Performed analysis of Band standard of living in conjunction with treaty rights litigation. (1996-1997)