

Daily Journal

NOVEMBER 26, 2025

TOP ANTITRUST LAWYERS 2025



Meet the practitioners shaping how markets compete in a year of landmark antitrust actions.



JOSEPH R. SAVERI

JOSEPH R. SAVERI LAW FIRM

SAN FRANCISCO

Before he opened Joseph Saveri Law Firm LLP, before he became a top litigator who has investigated, prosecuted and successfully resolved major antitrust cases, Joseph R. Saveri was the inheritor of a distinguished legal tradition.

In the 1960s, his father and uncle, Richard Saveri and Guido Saveri, and their close associate, Joseph M. Alioto, virtually invented plaintiff-side antitrust litigation.

"They were writing on a clean sheet of paper," Saveri has said of his forebears. "They were pioneers."

Saveri himself entered practice in 1987 and — nearly 40 years later — stands at the helm of a 28-attorney powerhouse that has generated more than \$5 billion in settlements and other successful resolutions for clients.

There has also been innovation, as Saveri pursued early no-poach claims against companies that conspired to not solicit, recruit or hire each other's employees without prior approval. *Robinson et al. v. Jackson Hewitt Inc. et al.*, 2:19-cv-09066 (D. N.J., filed May 28, 2019).

And Saveri also led in challenging pharmaceutical pricing practices, particularly so-called reverse payment schemes. *In re: Generic Pharmaceuticals Pricing Antitrust Litigation*, 2:16-md-02724 (E.D. Penn., filed Aug. 5, 2016).

Persistence is another key. Saveri left his position as managing partner at Lieff Cabraser Heimann & Bernstein LLP in 2012 to start his own firm. Two years later, he filed a landmark antitrust class action as sole lead counsel on behalf of direct purchasers of the ubiquitous electronic components known as capacitors. *In re: Capacitors Antitrust Litigation*, 3:14-cv-03264 (N.D. Cal., filed July 18, 2014).

More than a decade later, the case has achieved total settlements of \$604.55 million, a sum that represents a rarity in antitrust law because it greatly exceeds the \$427 million figure calculated as single damages.

Settlement distribution extended well into 2025. "A number of defendants were allowed to pay overtime, and the last payments have just been made," Saveri said.

Saveri and his team alleged that numerous major makers of the device formed a cartel, conspiring to fix, raise and stabilize prices in the multibillion-dollar market for aluminum, tantalum and film capacitors. The litigation included numerous settlements and a jury trial that also settled shortly before verdict.

Court rulings in the case clarified the scope of U.S. antitrust law and featured a trendsetting "hot tub" procedure in open court involving concurrent expert witness testimony and cross-examination.

In another long-running case, Saveri and colleagues prevailed for a class of professional mixed martial arts fighters against the sport's championship league, accused of obtaining monopoly power and exploiting the fighters. A \$375 million settlement provided an average payout of \$250,000 per fighter. *Cung Le v. Zuffa LLC*, 2:15-cv-01045 (D. Nev., filed June 3, 2015).

The American Antitrust Institute named Saveri's firm for Outstanding Litigation Achievement for the outcome.

"There's a second phase in that case coming along," Saveri said. "We don't quit."