

TRAILBLAZERS

GOVERNMENT RELATIONS



JONATHAN YAROWSKY WILMERHALE

PIONEER SPIRIT Jon Yarowsky believes that important learning experiences in one chapter of life should be used in future chapters. "I was trained as an antitrust lawyer but jumped at the opportunity to go to the House Judiciary Committee, which was more about policy. Then I became chief counsel for the whole committee, which meant congressional investigations as well." He moved to the Clinton White House to become special counsel to the president on antitrust, telecom and other issues. "There were a lot of congressional investigations, so I was asked to jump into that."

TRAILS BLAZED Yarowsky worked in both his former firm's antitrust and public policy departments after graduation. "Once, there was a big merger, and in a two-day period I went to the front office of the antitrust committee, then the House Judiciary Committee. I realized it was all connected." He ended up as head of the firm's antitrust modernization committee while also going to Congress on behalf of clients. Yarowsky then joined WilmerHale to focus on a multibranch strategy for clients that involves outreach to regulators, advocacy before Congress and litigation if necessary. "We have to determine the right response. For a lot of big mergers, I've dealt with Congress or the right agency." He also advocated for a third-way approach to net neutrality that involved per se violations in front of Congress, submissions before the FCC and talking to the executive branch. "But Congress never acted."

FUTURE EXPLORATIONS The atmosphere in Washington, D.C., is very polarized. "But we are beginning to see a desire to try to find some common ground, particularly in areas such as privacy and antitrust. This multibranch strategy often makes sense. And I think more law firms will take this path."