



FRANCIS SCARPULLA '67

• Antitrust Expert for a New Europe

Antitrust master **Francis Scarpulla '67** has a remarkably international career for someone who grew up in San Francisco, attended UC Hastings and has practiced law in the city for more than four decades.

As a law student, Scarpulla reveled in the days of the Sixty-Five Club, when UC Hastings hired retired faculty from top law schools around the country. "A lot of them had practiced law and weren't just academics," Scarpulla recalls. "Something a lot of people don't learn in law school is how to actually practice law, so that really helped."

After passing the bar, Scarpulla embarked on a sterling domestic career, working on numerous federal antitrust class actions. In 2005, the Antitrust Section of the California State Bar named him Antitrust Lawyer of the Year. In 2006, he joined the firm Zelle Hofmann as a partner in its San Francisco office, after more than 35 years of running his own practice.

But it was in 2009 that Scarpulla's path took a truly global turn, when he became a solicitor in the United Kingdom. (Traditionally, solicitors advise clients while their counterparts—barristers—represent the litigants in court.) Now, his antitrust expertise is highly valued in a European Union that is still developing class action procedures.

"They want to figure out how to get money to consumers who have been injured by price fixing," Scarpulla says. "They don't know how to do it, but I have been doing it for 45 years."

While Scarpulla's European credentials benefit Zelle Hofmann's international clients, his global work focuses more on big-picture policy questions. He has been to France to advise on restitutions, traveled to London to lecture on antitrust case mediation, and is an active member of the International Bar Association. He even consults in Canada, though he can't practice there.

"I get to meet lawyers from all around Western Europe and judges who sit on different competition courts," Scarpulla says. "It has a lot of professional advantages."

After a long and lauded career capped by an expansion into international law, it's easy to imagine Scarpulla retiring into the sunset. But he sees no appeal in that and even hints at further global growth. "I'm never going to slow down," he says. "I'm thinking of taking the Canadian bar, too."

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