FOREWORD

The Section of Antitrust Law of the American Bar Association is pleased to publish this first edition of the *Private Equity Antitrust Handbook*. The business of private fund advisers can raise substantial antitrust issues, and these advisers may unwittingly run afoul of the antitrust laws and regulations if they are not aware of common pitfalls. This *Handbook* will describe typical private equity transaction structures and the governance issues arising therefrom by focusing on compliance with U.S. competition law, particularly the Hart-Scott-Rodino Act; the antitrust analysis applied to private equity deals; and foreign merger control issues that can arise.

This edition of the *Handbook* was prepared by a working group, headed by Deidre J. Johnson and Brandon L. Bigelow. The Section appreciates the experience, expertise, and effort contributed to creating and authoring the first edition of this *Handbook*, which will be a helpful resource to in-house counsel at private equity firms and other private fund advisers, as well as outside counsel who handle deals for private equity firms, including deal lawyers and Hart-Scott-Rodino Act specialists.

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