



Listening Forum on Firsthand Effect of Mergers and Acquisitions Technology



May 12, 2022

Washington, D.C.

Speaker Bios

Introductory Remarks

Jonathan Kanter was confirmed on November 17, 2021, as Assistant Attorney General for the Antitrust Division. Throughout his career, Mr. Kanter has been a leading advocate for strong and meaningful antitrust enforcement and competition policy. Mr. Kanter has been a partner in the Washington, D.C. offices of two national law firms and was the founder of a boutique antitrust law firm dedicated to promoting antitrust enforcement. Mr. Kanter began his career as an attorney for the Federal Trade Commission's Bureau of Competition. He earned his J.D. from Washington University in St. Louis and his B.A. from State University of New York at Albany.

Speakers

Erin Wade is a farmer and restaurateur who has opened six restaurants and two farms (that grow food for the restaurants) in Santa Fe, Albuquerque and Austin. She opened her first restaurant, Vinaigrette, in Santa Fe, New Mexico, in 2008. Before her life in food, she graduated from Harvard College with a bachelor's degree in English and American literature and language, interned at Harper's Bazaar, and studied fashion design in Milan.

Cheri Kiesecker is a parent and member of many advocacy organizations concerned about student privacy. She believes students (and parents of minor students) should control their own data and be notified of their ability to remove student data from an edtech merger or acquisition. Students should have consent over how their data is shared outside of school, and should also be able to know if their data is being used to negatively profile, discriminate, or harm them.

Rand Fishkin is cofounder and CEO of the audience research software startup, SparkToro, and previously founded and led Moz, a market leader in SEO software. He is also an investor in early stage startups and funds.

Bradley Tusk is a venture capitalist, political strategist, philanthropist, and writer. He is a co-founder and Managing Partner at Tusk Venture Partners, the world's first venture capital fund that invests solely in early stage startups in highly regulated industries. Previously, Bradley served as campaign manager for Mike Bloomberg's 2009 mayoral race, as Deputy Governor of Illinois, overseeing the state's budget, operations, legislation, policy and communications, as communications director for US Senator Chuck Schumer.

Saagar Enjeti is the host of Breaking Points with Krystal and Saagar and The Realignment Podcast. Saagar grew a corporate media Youtube show from 6,000 subscribers to 1.35 million alongside Krystal Ball and focuses on the destructive effects of corporate media on American society.

Gayle Shanks is the founder and co-owner of two Changing Hands bookstores located in Tempe and Phoenix Arizona; her original store opened in 1974. She has been involved in many bookseller trade associations on the regional and national levels, including a stint as president of the American Booksellers Association. She is involved in city and state politics as it impacts small businesses and voting rights.

Jasmine Johnson is the owner of Parent Co Shop in Orland Hills, Illinois and a member of Small Business Majority's network. Jasmine is an inventor of ParentCo Electrical Outlet Covers, a child safety product that helps mitigate at-home accidents among minors from electrical outlets.

Greg Caron is a 19-year T-Mobile employee at the company's call center in Colorado Spring. Greg has been an active member of T-Mobile Workers United for several years. In the lead up to the T-Mobile-Sprint merger, Greg spoke out on behalf of his coworkers about the likely negative impacts of the deal.

Closing Remarks

Lina M. Khan was sworn in as Chair of the Federal Trade Commission on June 15, 2021. Prior to becoming head of the FTC, Khan was an Associate Professor of Law at Columbia Law School. She also previously served as counsel to the U.S. House Judiciary Committee's Subcommittee on Antitrust, Commercial, and Administrative Law, legal adviser to FTC Commissioner Rohit Chopra, and legal director at the Open Markets Institute. Khan's scholarship on antitrust and competition policy has been published in the Columbia Law Review, Harvard Law Review, University of Chicago Law Review, and Yale Law Journal. She is a graduate of Williams College and Yale Law School.