
THE CRISIS FACING AMERICA'S FIRE DEPARTMENTS



ADVERTISEMENT

A NATIONWIDE ANTITRUST ACTION TO PROTECT PUBLIC SAFETY & RESTORE COMPETITION.



FEDERAL SCRUTINY HIGHLIGHTS FIRE APPARATUS PRICING CRISIS

A recent bipartisan U.S. Senate hearing examined soaring fire apparatus prices and delivery delays that have forced fire departments nationwide to rely on aging equipment. Lawmakers raised concerns that three manufacturers (REV Group, Oshkosh Corporation, and Rosenbauer) control up to 80% of the market, potentially enabling anti-competitive pricing practices. The hearing followed a formal Senate inquiry seeking detailed explanations of pricing increases, delayed deliveries, and unresolved department complaints—underscoring the growing case for accountability and cost recovery.

THE CRISIS

Across the nation, city and county fire departments are paying more and waiting longer for the lifesaving apparatus they depend on. This is not the result of normal market forces. It is the predictable outcome of unlawful consolidation by two dominant players:

- **REV Group** (backed by private equity firm American Industrial Partners)
- **Oshkosh Corporation**

Lawsuits allege these companies have exploited the fact that fire trucks are critical to public safety for communities across the nation.

Fire agencies must have them, which means they must pay for them even if options shrink and costs go up. Their acquisitions of competing manufacturers have created a market dominance that has:

- **CLOSED PLANTS, LIMITING PRODUCTION**
- **RESTRICTED SUPPLY, CREATING ARTIFICIAL SCARCITY**
- **INFLATED PRICES, LEAVING PUBLIC AGENCIES WITH NO ALTERNATIVE**
- **EXTENDED DELIVERY TIMELINES, UNDERMINING EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS**

WHY PUBLIC ENTITIES ARE TAKING ACTION

Cities, counties, and fire districts nationwide are recognizing the scale of the problem. Many fire agencies have experienced massive delays waiting for new truck order fulfillments while their current aging equipment is being pushed to the limit. Response times have slowed, and many agencies are left trying to piece together parts and used vehicles just to stay in operation.

Equipment shortages, increased maintenance costs, soaring prices for new trucks, and a reduction in available parts have caused a strain on the budgets of many fire agencies.

“Public agencies have no meaningful choice in this market - and taxpayers are paying the price”

— John Fiske, Shareholder, Baron & Budd

Public entities are stepping forward. Now your community can too.



CONTROLLED MARKET. HARMED COMMUNITIES.

Less Competition = Higher Prices + Longer Delays + Diminished Public Safety

WHY YOUR CITY OR COUNTY SHOULD JOIN THE LEGAL ACTION

Fire truck manufacturers have put their own profits ahead of public safety while also costing millions of dollars to fire agencies nationwide. Our legal claims will seek to:

Every extra dollar spent on fire apparatus is a dollar not spent on public safety.

Recover Taxpayer Money

You may be eligible for:

- Treble damages
- Restitution for inflated prices and delays
- Civil penalties
- Mandatory attorneys' fees

Restore a Healthy, Competitive Marketplace

Your participation helps support:

- Increased competition among manufacturers
- More choices for fire departments
- Better pricing and quality in future purchases
- Structural reforms – including potentially unwinding unlawful acquisitions

Strengthen Public Safety Infrastructure

A competitive market means:

- Faster delivery of lifesaving equipment
- Safer, more reliable trucks for firefighters
- Greater readiness for emergency response

For most public entities:

- **Zero upfront cost.** We are plaintiff law firms working on a contingency basis. This means that clients will never have to pay up front for the services provided to them. If the case is successful, the law firm will receive a percentage of the award. Further, you are not responsible for expenses unless or until we recover money for you. If it is not successful, the client does not owe the firm anything.
- **Participation is streamlined** – your counsel manages filings and coordination
- **No disruption** to ongoing procurement needs

Many public entities are coming forward with concerns about the unfair costs of vital fire trucks for their communities.

THE LEGAL CASE: RESTORING COMPETITION

The conduct of these companies gives rise to several legal claims. As we have done with many public entity clients, we would bring claims on your behalf challenging the manufacturers' unlawful monopoly conduct under:

Federal Statutes

Clayton Act Section 7, 15 U.S.C. § 18 – Prohibits mergers and acquisitions that tend to substantially lessen competition

Sherman Act, 15 U.S.C. § 1 & 2 – Outlaws monopolization and related conduct

State Laws

Parallel state competition laws

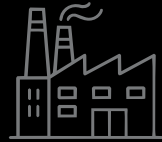
If you have experienced the increased costs and wait times associated with this controlled market, contact us to learn more about your legal options.

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PRIVATE EQUITY FIRM ACQUIRES SMALL EQUIPMENT COMPANIES AND CONSOLIDATES TO INCREASE MARKET SHARE



LONG DELAYS FOR EQUIPMENT ORDERS



FIRE DEPARTMENT IS LEFT WITHOUT THE NECESSARY EQUIPMENT RESULTING IN DIMINISHED COMMUNITY PROTECTION & INCREASED DANGER

HIGHER PRICES FOR FIRE DEPARTMENTS

ABOUT OUR LEGAL TEAM

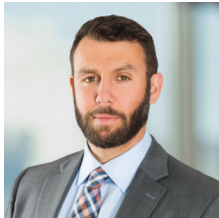


Baron & Budd, P.C. is among the largest and most accomplished plaintiffs law firms in the country. With more than 40 years of experience, Baron & Budd has the expertise and resources to handle complex litigation throughout the United States. As a law firm that takes pride in remaining at the forefront of litigation, Baron & Budd has spearheaded many significant cases for hundreds of public entities and tens of thousands of individuals.

Since the firm was founded in 1977, Baron & Budd has achieved substantial national acclaim for its work on cutting-edge litigation, trying cases to verdict and settling cases in areas of litigation as diverse and significant as dangerous and highly addictive pharmaceuticals, defective medical devices, asbestos and mesothelioma, wildfires, environmental contamination, fraudulent banking practices, e-cigarettes, motor vehicles, federal whistleblower cases, and other consumer fraud issues.

BARON & BUDD
PROTECTING WHAT'S RIGHT

ABOUT OUR LEGAL TEAM



JOHN FISKE is a leading public entity-as-plaintiff lawyer in California and a shareholder in the San Diego offices of Baron & Budd.

Mr. Fiske has resolved more than \$2.5 billion dollars for public entity clients since 2018.

John Fiske was the 2020 California Lawyer Attorney of the Year in Environmental Litigation and is a ten-time consecutive Super Lawyer.

John Fiske has been instrumental in the wildfire litigation in California. He has resolved approximately \$1.7 billion for more than 70 public entities statewide against investor-owned utilities Pacific Gas & Electric Company and Southern California Edison. Since 2018, Mr. Fiske has been lead counsel to 104 public entities in wildfire cases, having successfully resolved more than 70 cases while the rest remain in active litigation.

Mr. Fiske also strives to protect public education. He was court-appointed Co-Lead Counsel for

public entities and school districts in the California JUUL litigation. He recovered more than \$270 million while representing 300 school districts and public entities across the nation, including some of the nation's largest districts like Los Angeles Unified.

Mr. Fiske represents the largest group of California's litigating public entities in the case against opioid manufacturers, distributors, and national retailers. Mr. Fiske created the California Opioid Consortium, consisting of 37 California counties and cities, which collectively serve more than 11 million Californians.

Mr. Fiske has resolved more than \$800 million of PCB water contamination lawsuits for over 2,400 public entities against Monsanto and Bayer. Mr. Fiske was appointed Lead Class Counsel in the national PCB class action, and he represents states, counties, cities, and port districts.

**Past results dependent upon facts of those cases.
Future results will differ based upon different facts.*



LINDSAY STEVENS a shareholder at Baron & Budd, has focused on protecting what's right by holding some of the largest

corporations in the world accountable for harming everyday consumers. Through the years, she has represented clients in various mass tort litigations against pharmaceutical companies and medical device manufacturers. She has also assisted in representing individuals who have suffered devastating losses from wildfires, holding electrical utility companies responsible for the harm caused by their utilities in the Woolsey and Butte fires. Before joining the firm, Ms. Stevens collaborated with Baron & Budd on the firm's polychlorinated biphenyls (PCB) litigation in representing the City of San Diego against Monsanto for polluting San Diego Bay with these forever chemicals. Ms. Stevens was eager to join Baron & Budd's environmental litigation team to continue her representation of public entities in PCB water

contamination lawsuits against Monsanto and Bayer. She is also part of the team representing the largest group of California's litigating public entities in the case against opioid manufacturers, distributors, and national retailers. Along with other matters, Ms. Stevens represents the counties of San Diego, Sacramento, Placer, Shasta and Del Norte in representative actions on behalf of the people of the state of California for public nuisance lawsuits against social media giants Meta, Snap, Google, YouTube and TikTok, alleging the creation of a health crisis among minors in developing compulsive and addictive behaviors due to social media algorithms and user-interface design intended to create repetitive uses.



BARON & BUDD[®]
PROTECTING WHAT'S RIGHT[®]

ABOUT OUR LEGAL TEAM



Simonsen Sussman is an antitrust law firm founded by former federal enforcers who together have decades of experience with federal and state antitrust and unfair competition laws through government investigations and in private and public litigation across the country.

Simonsen Sussman's mission is to help those harmed by anticompetitive and unfair practices. The firm brings timely, efficient, and high-impact competition actions which are critical to opening up markets to new entry, making our economy more dynamic, and enabling a fair distribution of the benefits of competition to all.



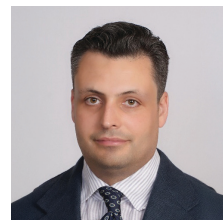
CATHERINE SIMONSEN

of Los Angeles, CA, is a Partner and Co-Founder of Simonsen Sussman LLP. She brings over a decade of

experience investigating and litigating government and private antitrust cases in federal and California state courts. Prior to co-founding the firm, Catherine served as the Assistant Regional Director for the Western Competition Group at the Federal Trade Commission, where she managed

several merger and conduct matters. Before joining the FTC, Catherine served as a Deputy Attorney General in the Antitrust Section of the California Attorney General's office. Prior to her government enforcement roles, Catherine was a partner in the litigation group of an Am Law 100 law firm, where she successfully prosecuted numerous competitor suits under federal and state antitrust laws.

Catherine clerked for the Honorable J. Jerome Farris of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit and the Honorable John C. Coughenour of the U.S. District Court for the Western District of Washington. She holds a J.D. from Yale Law School and a B.A. from Stanford University.



SHAOUL SUSSMAN

of New York NY, is a Partner and Co-Founder of Simonsen Sussman LLP and a seasoned antitrust practitioner with

extensive experience in private and government practice. Before founding the firm, Shaoul served as the Associate Director for Litigation in the Bureau of Competition at the Federal Trade Commission. During his tenure, he oversaw the Bureau's expansive litigation portfolio, focusing on strategic case development and successful

outcomes. Apart from his litigation work at FTC, Shaoul played a pivotal role in shaping the FTC and DOJ 2023 Merger Guidelines. Shaoul previously served as Attorney Advisor to former FTC Chair Lina Khan. Prior to his roles at the FTC, Shaoul was in private practice and served as a legal fellow at the Institute for Local Self-Reliance. Shaoul holds a J.D. from Fordham University and a B.A. from Bard College Berlin.



NICOLAS STEBINGER

of Washington, DC, a Partner and Co-Founder of Simonsen Sussman LLP, is a seasoned trial lawyer and antitrust

practitioner. Nicolas has investigated, prosecuted, and defended a broad array of antitrust lawsuits. He has tried more than 40 cases, including over two dozen jury trials as lead counsel.

Prior to joining the firm, Nicolas served as Senior Trial Counsel with the Bureau of Competition at the Federal Trade Commission. In that role, Nicolas represented the FTC in federal courts across the United States, challenging a wide range of mergers and anticompetitive conduct. Before joining the FTC, Nicolas worked as a trial lawyer with the Office of the Public Defender in West Palm Beach, Florida. Nicolas began his legal career in New York

as an attorney with the antitrust and litigation groups of an Am Law 100 law firm.

Nicolas clerked for the Honorable James I. Cohn at the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Florida. He holds a B.A. from Dickinson College and a J.D. from Georgetown University Law Center, where he graduated with honors and was an editor of the Georgetown Law Journal.



VICTORIA SIMS

a Partner at Simonsen Sussman LLP, brings with her over a decade and a half of experience in public and

private enforcement of the antitrust laws, both in the context of mergers and anticompetitive conduct. Prior to joining Simonsen Sussman, Vicky served at the Federal Trade Commission in the Mergers II division of the Bureau of Competition, investigating and litigating mergers in various sectors. Prior to the FTC, Vicky was a partner at a plaintiff-side law firm, prosecuting antitrust cases on behalf of small businesses and recovering hundreds of millions of dollars for class members in numerous complex litigations around the country. Vicky graduated from Brandeis University and received her J.D. from the Catholic University Columbus School of Law.

ABOUT OUR LEGAL TEAM



Robert F. Prince established Prince Glover Hayes in Tuscaloosa, Alabama, in 1979. Both Bob and the firm earned reputations as formidable forces for their representation of everyday people in legal battles with large corporations and insurance companies. In Alabama, Bob secured some of the state's largest-ever jury verdicts in personal injury, environmental, insurance fraud and other cases. At the same time, he was committed to giving back to the Tuscaloosa community and supporting local organizations by teaching Sunday School and serving as an active volunteer at the Boys and Girls Club of West Alabama.

Today, our dedicated team of attorneys follows in Bob Prince's footsteps by fighting relentlessly for

the legal rights and futures of those who have suffered injuries and other wrongs. As fearless advocates, we've continued to break records – sometimes even our own records – by winning verdicts and life-changing settlements for our clients. We've also maintained a culture of giving back to the Tuscaloosa and West Alabama communities through our local churches and other charitable organizations.

Our goal is to serve our clients with integrity and personalized attention – and that client-first approach has served us well. We continue to take on powerful adversaries with their own legal teams and abundant resources and have proven time and again that with thorough investigations, expert testimonies, and aggressive litigation strategies, it is possible to hold even corporate giants responsible for their wrongful actions.



JOSH HAYES

Tuscaloosa attorney Josh Hayes has dedicated his career to tackling some of the most pressing social

challenges of our time. Appointed as a Deputy Attorney General by the Alabama Attorney General, he has played a pivotal role in the state's efforts to address the opioid crisis and the devastating impact of overprescription, oversupply and illegal distribution on our state and communities. Josh has also been at the forefront of high-stakes litigation targeting pornography companies to prevent them from profiting from sex trafficking and child exploitation. Currently, Josh serves as a Deputy Attorney General in Alabama's case against TikTok for its deceptive trade practices that harm Alabama's youth. Through his work, Josh is committed to safeguarding Alabama's future and advocating on behalf of those affected by these crises.

He is a past-President of the Alabama Association for Justice where he also serves as a TRIAL PAC trustee, as a member of the Board of Directors,

Elections Committee, Executive Committee, and Legislative Committee and is the past Chair of the Emerging Leaders Section. He is also a member of the American Association for Justice, the Southern Trial Lawyers Association, and Injury Board. Josh has served on the Board of Directors of the Good Samaritan Clinic, a Tuscaloosa medical clinic treating disadvantaged citizens of West Alabama who are without health insurance. He is a former member of The University's Honors College Board of Visitors and the advisory board of The Blackburn Institute. In 2025, Josh served as the Capital Campaign Chair for the United Way of West Alabama. UWWA's Campaign, which raises money for 30 partner agencies stretching across nine counties, set an ambitious \$4.8 million goal and the campaign raised in excess of \$4.9 million – these funds impact roughly 1 in 4 people across West Alabama. Josh is serving as the 2026 UWWA Chair of the Board of Directors.

Josh and his wife Jenny Rob have two daughters, Stella Grace (UA junior) and Caroline (high school senior). They are members of Christ Episcopal Church.

ABOUT OUR LEGAL TEAM



Jinks Crow is a woman-owned personal injury law firm based in Alabama, with offices in Montgomery and Union Springs, bringing more than 150 years of combined legal experience to every case.

The firm represents clients in personal injury, wrongful death, accidents, defective products, and complex class action and multidistrict litigation, and has recovered over \$1 billion in verdicts and settlements. Known as trial lawyers above all else, Jinks Crow is prepared to take cases to trial when a fair resolution cannot be reached, combining the resources to handle high-stakes litigation with the personalized attention each client deserves.

The firm is dedicated to fighting for the underdog, advocating for those who have been wronged, and working collaboratively to take on powerful defendants and achieve meaningful results.



CHRISTY CROW

Christy's path to law began in Hamilton, Alabama, where her earliest courtroom memory came not from

family tradition, but from witnessing the aftermath of her father's injury caused by gross negligence. That experience shaped her commitment to helping others facing similar hardships.

Since joining Jinks Crow in 1997, Christy has built a reputation across Alabama as a formidable advocate in both the courtroom and arbitration.

A respected leader in the legal community, Christy served as President of the Alabama State Bar in 2019, following years of service in key leadership roles. She continues to contribute at a high level, including serving as President of SEABOTA and 2nd Vice President of the Alabama Association for Justice. Her dedication extends beyond the profession through her work with organizations like the Alabama Civil Justice Foundation and the

Girl Scouts of Southern Alabama. Throughout her career, she has balanced leadership and advocacy, even securing significant trial verdicts while leading the Bar during major challenges such as COVID-19. Christy remains deeply connected to her community in Union Springs, where she lives with her husband and continues her service through local organizations and her church.



LISA LITTELL

Attorney Lisa Littell brings more than 20 years of legal experience, including extensive work in major mass

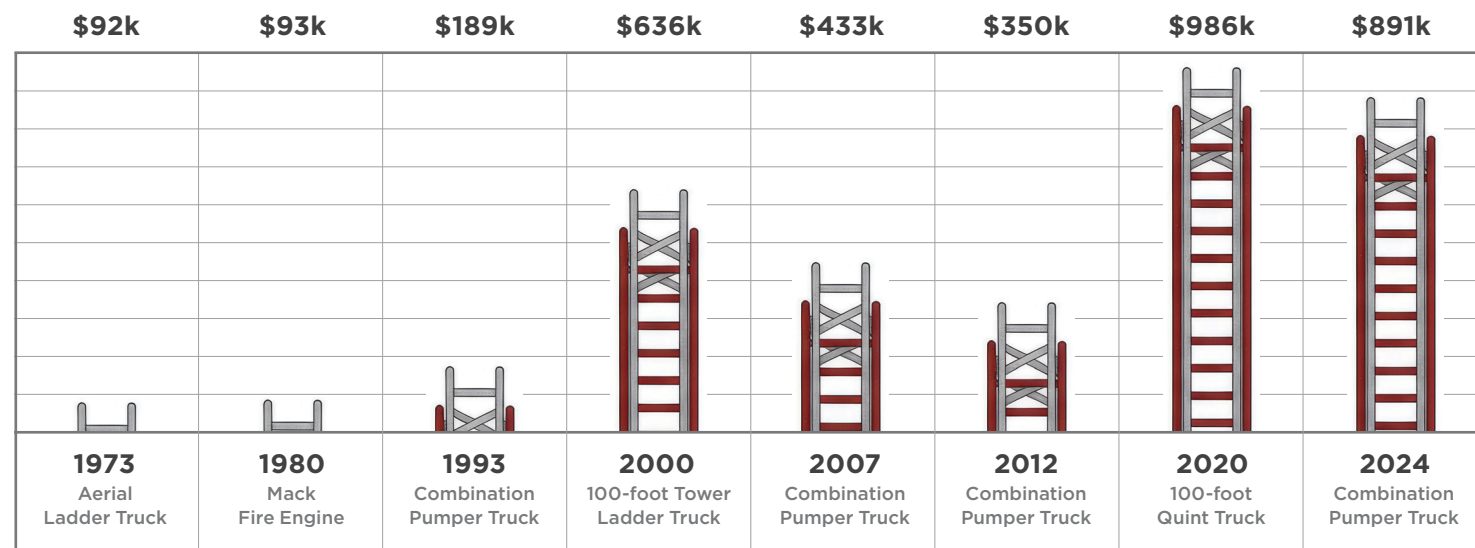
tort litigations that resulted in multi-million dollar global settlements. She has handled cases involving metal-on-metal hips, IVC filters, hernia mesh, talc powder, 3M earplugs, and Zantac, working with leading attorneys nationwide from development through settlement. Her research, particularly in the Argon IVC filter litigation,

contributed to successful trial outcomes. In addition to mass torts, Lisa has handled hundreds of personal injury cases across Alabama and has experience in family and business law, along with advanced mediation training through the Alabama Center for Dispute Resolution.

Since 2006, Lisa has served as an adjunct professor at Columbia Southern University, teaching criminal justice and holding leadership roles including Graduate Chair and Advisory Board member. She is also deeply involved in the field trial community, becoming the first female President of the Alabama Field Trial Association and helping found The Hartley Carter Foundation to support youth participation. Lisa remains committed to community service through pro bono work, including helping establish a nonprofit summer camp for underserved children, and was recognized in 2020 as an Attorney for Justice by the Tennessee Supreme Court.

THE COST OF FIRE TRUCKS CONTINUES TO RISE

Here's how it affected one department in Carpentersville, Illinois:



PROTECTING YOUR COMMUNITY
DEFENDING YOUR BUDGET





FOR MORE INFORMATION:

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