

# News

## **Chapman Spingola Defeats Motions to Dismiss Antitrust Suit**

CHICAGO — Chapman Spingola, led by Peter Spingola and Sara Siegall, succeeded in defeating motions to dismiss plaintiffs' Sherman Act, civil conspiracy and tortious interference claims in a matter pending in the United States District Court for the Northern District of Texas. Chapman Spingola's clients are engaged in the delivery of high-tech goods and services to lenders and repossessors in the automotive repossession industry. Plaintiffs alleged that defendants, plaintiffs' competitors and the largest companies within their respective markets, are engaged in a conspiracy designed to restrain competition and drive plaintiffs out of business.

In moving to dismiss, defendants argued that plaintiffs' allegations were too conclusory to state sufficient claims for relief under the pleading standard set forth by the United States Supreme Court in *Bell Atlantic v. Twombly*. Following extensive briefing and oral argument, the Court on May 27, 2011, in a 25 page opinion, denied defendants' motions as to all claims in plaintiffs' Amended Complaint (holding only that the officers of the defendant companies should be dismissed from the lawsuit without prejudice) and ruling that plaintiffs had sufficiently alleged all elements of each of their causes of action.