Makan on the Hill: Did He Help or Hurt T-Mobile's Case?

By Blair Levin September 18, 2019

DOJ Antitrust Chief Makan Delrahim, along with FTC Chair Joe Simons, appeared at a Senate Antitrust Oversight Committee yesterday. Most of the questioning was on the various antitrust efforts directed to constrain the power of big tech companies, but there were some questions on the approval of the T-Mobile/Sprint deal. Some, such as noting the hotel preferences of T-Mobile executives, had political meaning but, in our view, no meaning in terms of the trial. We were, however, struck by three comments Mr. Delrahim made, one of which we think is likely to be used at the trial. The other two probably won't but nonetheless, in our view they call into question the strength of some of the companies' argument for the deal.

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