

Dr. Alan Frankel is Director of Coherent Economics and Senior Advisor to Compass Lexecon, and serves as a Senior Editor of the Section's Antitrust Law Journal. He received his Ph.D. from the University of Chicago in 1986 and has been a full time economic consultant for twenty-five years. Dr. Frankel has written and spoken extensively about competitive issues surrounding credit card, debit card and ATM networks. He has served as an expert on behalf of competition authorizes and merchant associations challenging MasterCard and Visa interchange fees and vertical restraints in jurisdictions including Australia, New Zealand, the United Kingdom and the European Commission, in addition to the United States. Dr. Frankel also served as an expert in cases in California and in New Zealand which challenged as inadequate the disclosure of currency conversion fees added to consumer credit card transactions initiated in foreign currencies. The currency conversion fee cases all settled prior to trial. The U.S. cases, including the California case – *Schwartz v. Visa and MasterCard* and related Federal and state cases on behalf of consumers – ultimately settled with defendants agreeing to pay \$336 million and to make additional disclosures of the fees on credit card statements.