



**The Daily Dish**

# The Google Search Case

DOUGLAS HOLTZ-EAKIN | AUGUST 7, 2024

On Monday, [a federal judge handed down his ruling](#) in the Department of Justice's (DOJ) antitrust case against Google, finding that the company illegally maintained a monopoly in online search and search text ads. Google did so, the court found, using agreements with web browsers and smartphones to be the default search engine. Jeff Westling has the [full story](#). Here are a few key takeaways.

Probably the most important is that current antitrust law works. No additional legislation singling out platform companies and no messing with criteria for decisions. As Westling puts it: "Congress need not change well-established principles to target firms if those firms can be shown to harm consumers."

The second thing to remember is that Google will appeal (and the process will take years). "Google will have some very strong arguments on appeal, namely that the opinion does not fully consider the company's competitors – in particular generative artificial intelligence models that have been developed since the case's beginning – and that Google's agreements benefit consumers and competition as a whole," Westling writes.