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Partner Michael Benoit comments for Law360 as Kraninger confirmed to lead CFPB

December 7, 2018 |

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On December 6, the Senate confirmed Kathleen Kraninger as the next director of the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB). *Law360* interviewed several financial services attorneys, including Hudson Cook chairman <u>Michael Benoit</u>, who agreed that the consumer watchdog has been less aggressive in its enforcement activity and has become more willing to work with the industry it oversees.

"Here now, you have a bureau that appears to be interested in working with industry and realize that part of a regulator's duty isn't just to enforce the law, but also to help regulated companies understand how to comply with the law," said Michael.

Michael is chairman of Hudson Cook, LLP and a partner in the firm's Washington, D.C. office. He advises banks, sales finance companies, auto dealers, leasing companies, mortgage lenders, and other creditors and technology providers on a wide range of consumer financial services law, and provides federal legislative and regulatory advice and support to financial services trade associations. Michael assists CFPB-regulated clients in preparing for supervisory exams, and represents clients in investigation and enforcement matters involving the Federal Trade Commission and the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau.

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