

Banking Regulation To Watch In 2026

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Chris Willis, co-leader of Troutman Pepper Locke's Consumer Financial Services Regulatory Practice Group, was quoted in the January 2, 2026 *Law360* article, "[Banking Regulation To Watch In 2026](#)."

"The actions of the bureau's new leadership have neutralized the agency in the respect of pursuing aggressive enforcement and supervisory positions," Troutman Pepper Locke partner Chris Willis, co-leader of the firm's consumer financial services regulatory practice group, told *Law360*. "It has really removed the pressure that was being put on industry from the very aggressive CFPB that we saw during the last administration."

"The worry is that it may create a situation for opponents of the rulemaking to challenge it, not only on the basis of the substance of whatever the rule is, but also on the basis that it wasn't a proper use of an interim final rule under the Administrative Procedure Act," Willis said. "If that delays a real final rule from coming into being, then that's something that could be negative from an industry standpoint."

Financial services firms "still exist in a highly regulated environment, notwithstanding what's happened to the CFPB," Troutman Pepper's Willis said. "Instead of monitoring one very active regulator, they will have a large number of them to think about, plus the state legislatures."

"That complicates the compliance outlook for financial services companies because it creates a prospect that states will take differing paths on various issues and adopt non-uniform requirements to an even greater extent than we see now," he added.

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