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Banking Regulation To Watch In 2026

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Chris Willis

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."
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> "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."
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> 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."
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> "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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