

VLP Partner Melissa Krasnow Quoted in Law360 Article “Privacy Legislation and Regulation to Watch in 2017”

VLP Partner Melissa Krasnow was quoted in the Law360 article “Privacy Legislation and Regulation to Watch In 2017.” The article reported that, with Republicans in control of both the White House and Congress, privacy attorneys will be keeping a close eye on whether long-stalled efforts to modernize and unify government data access and breach notification laws will finally find traction in the coming year, as well as how active regulators such as the Federal Trade Commission and California attorney general will continue to be in policing privacy issues.

The article also noted that the upcoming year promises to be anything but predictable when it comes to privacy policy issues, with widespread uncertainty expected to continue to swirl around long-simmering issues such as how far law enforcement should be allowed to go to force service providers such as Apple and Microsoft to turn over user data and whether the FTC's active privacy enforcement agenda and the Federal Communication Commission's newly instituted rules for broadband service providers will thrive.

According to the article, it will also be worthwhile to keep an eye on privacy regulation at the state level, particularly in California, where Congressman Xavier Becerra is poised to take over the attorney general post from Kamala Harris, who took the lead on policing many privacy issues and will now join the U.S. Senate.

Ms. Krasnow said, "The California attorney general's office has been at the forefront of privacy and often is deemed a de facto national regulator given California's privacy laws and significance to the US in terms of population and economy and as the home of many leading technology companies." She added that it will also be interesting to monitor "whether the influence of California and other states in privacy will become stronger as a result of changes in privacy regulators at the federal level in the new administration."

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