

Ex-Treasury Dept. Deputy Asst. GC Joins Latham In DC

By Jack Rodgers

Law360 (May 9, 2023, 4:31 PM EDT) -- Latham & Watkins LLP has expanded its practice focused on the Committee on Foreign Investment in the United States and U.S. national security, with an attorney who most recently worked with enforcement and intelligence matters with the U.S. Department of the Treasury, the firm announced Monday.

Catherine Hein joins Latham as a counsel in the firm's Washington office and will work on CFIUS and national security issues within the firm's white collar defense and investigations practice, according to a news release. She most recently worked at the Treasury as acting principal deputy assistant general counsel for enforcement and intelligence, the firm said.



Catherine Hein

In addition to her experience as acting principal deputy assistant general counsel at the Treasury, Hein has worked for the agency as the CFIUS managing counsel, the firm said.

A Columbia Law School graduate, Hein helped lead a team of more than 20 attorneys while working at the Treasury, that group's work largely focused on reviewing cases brought before CFIUS, the firm said.

Also while at the Treasury, Hein helped advise congressional and other federal-level stakeholders on policy issues and legal matters involving foreign investment in U.S. entities, infrastructure investments, and on other issues, the firm said.

In an email to Law360 Pulse Tuesday, Hein said she joined Latham because she was impressed with the firm's platform and collaborative cross-platform approach to client service.

"I look forward to working with the firm's clients to anticipate and effectively address potential national security concerns," Hein said. "I am particularly excited to join Latham's team of problem-solvers to help clients navigate their toughest CFIUS and OFAC challenges."

In her roles with the federal government, Hein has helped to develop regulatory guidelines and regimes, the firm said, and assisted with the Foreign Investment Risk Review Modernization Act of 2018 for proposed policies on some forms of outbound investments.

That legislation expanded the jurisdiction of CFIUS, allowing the group to monitor a range of new types of investments, including foreign real estate investment in buildings close to government facilities and

other transactions seeking to circumvent CFIUS jurisdiction.

Hein also has experience working with the U.S. Trade Development Agency and the U.S. Agency for International Development, the firm said.

Hein told Law360 Pulse that at the U.S. Trade Development Agency she helped to support exporting U.S. goods and services overseas and at USAID, assisted the agency with loan and guarantee agreements for private sector financing on international development projects.

"I started my career working on banking and project finance transactions," Hein said. "Throughout my career, I have focused on cross-border investments and foreign policy issues, which complement my ability to strategically counsel clients on foreign investment reviews and economic sanctions."

According to Hein's firm profile, her practice also focuses on Office of Foreign Assets Control issues and supported that office while with the Treasury. She also has experience assisting with the Financial Crimes Enforcement Network, according to her firm profile.

Daniel Lennon, the firm's managing partner in its Washington office, said in a statement that the firm was looking forward to Hein's contributions to the firm's CFIUS-focused practice.

"Our clients will benefit from her insights and experience with CFIUS while at the Treasury Department, as well as her work [on] interagency on foreign investment policy," Lennon said.

Doug Greenburg, global chair of Latham's white collar defense and investigations practice, also lauded Hein's joining the firm in a statement, saying her experience with CFIUS review and at the Treasury would help with Latham's handling of complex processes evaluating national security risks associated with foreign investment.

Les Carnegie, a Latham partner who co-leads the firm's economic sanctions and export controls practice and the CFIUS and U.S. national security practice, also lauded Hein's new role with the firm in a statement.

"Her government leadership and work within CFIUS will bring immense value to our team and our clients," Carnegie said in a statement.

In March, the firm added three new partners — Abigail Smith, Gabe Fleet and Ian Nussbaum — in both its New York and Washington offices, focused on mergers and acquisitions, capital markets and privacy and connectivity law.

--Editing by Andrew Cohen.