



The Afternoon Docket
Reuters
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What's going on today?

- SCOTUS hears Nvidia bid to avoid securities fraud suit.
- Prominent lawyer Theodore Olson died at 84.
- Trump seeks loyal attorney general.
- Baltimore wins \$266 million in opioid case against distributors.

Plus, your weekly Career Tracker. Have a great day!

The long road to replacing Lina Khan at the FTC

A change of leadership at the FTC will likely take months under the Trump administration. FTC Chair Lina Khan's fight against corporate consolidation in the name of consumers won fans among Democrats and some Republicans, including Vice President-elect JD Vance. Despite Vance's praise for her approach, Khan is not seen as likely to stay after the inauguration.

Who will be the next chair and what's next for the FTC? Jody Godoy has more.

More top news

- U.S. Supreme Court examines Nvidia bid to avoid securities fraud suit
- Trump seeks loyal attorney general
- Baltimore wins \$266 million in opioid case against distributors
- Meta will face antitrust trial over Instagram, WhatsApp acquisitions
- UK Supreme Court's bad faith trademark ruling opens doors to more challenges, lawyers say
- NextEra Energy hit with \$350 million antitrust lawsuit over hydropower project
- U.S. indicts suspected leaker of classified documents on Israel's plans to strike Iran
- Crypto legislation likely coming under Trump, ex-SEC chief says
- Beirut bombing victims' \$1.68 billion Iran judgment overturned by U.S. appeals court

Theodore Olson, prominent conservative U.S. lawyer, dies at 84

Theodore Olson, a conservative American lawyer who helped Republican George W. Bush secure the presidency in the legal battle over the 2000 U.S. election and went on to argue successfully on behalf of same-sex marriage, died on Wednesday at age 84, his law firm Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher said.

A constitutional lawyer who served as U.S. solicitor general under Bush and in the U.S. Justice Department under President Ronald Reagan, Olson argued 65 cases at the U.S. Supreme Court.

Career Tracker...

Here are the latest moves:

In New York ...

Ryne Miller, the former general counsel of the now-bankrupt FTX, joined Lowenstein Sandler as co-leader of the firm's cryptocurrency practice and the head of its commodities, futures and derivatives practice.

In Washington, D.C. ...

Freshfields brought on outgoing associate deputy U.S. attorney general Austin Evers to co-lead its congressional investigations practice ... Summit Ridge Energy's top lawyer Joyce Chang joined Skadden's energy and infrastructure projects group ... Honigman hired Danny Shulman from Latham & Watkins as a partner in its transactions and counseling practice and corporate department ... Polsinelli brought on employment litigator Tyree Jones Jr from Reed Smith.

In Los Angeles ...

Edelson hired Ali Moghaddas, who helped secure prominent lawyer Tom Girardi's conviction, as a partner ... Foley & Lardner added Jose Sanchez as a securities enforcement partner from Deloitte ... Greenberg Traurig brought on Ankush Israni as a shareholder from Jones Day ... Former federal prosecutor Raymond Aghaian joined BakerHostetler's privacy and cybersecurity litigation team as a partner ... Buchalter added Kevin Lally as a shareholder in its litigation and white collar and investigations practice groups.

In San Diego ...

Greenberg Traurig added John Cleary from Procopio to its corporate practice.

In San Francisco ...

Polsinelli hired Laila Paszti from Kirkland as a shareholder for its technology transactions and data privacy practice ... Former Assistant U.S. Attorney Emmet Ong joined BCLP's financial services disputes and investigations practice as a partner.

In Boston ...

Aloke Chakravarty, a former assistant U.S. attorney who investigated and successfully convicted the Boston Marathon bomber, joined Saul Ewing ... Morgan Lewis hired trial lawyer Stephen Hall from Orrick as a partner.

In Houston ...

O'Melveny brought on energy transactions lawyer Jibin Luke as a partner in the energy industry group from McDermott.

In Dallas ...

Dykema hired labor and employment attorney Kathleen Cruz from Burke Bogdanowicz as a senior counsel.

And finally ...

McGuireWoods elected 13 new partners.

As anti-fluoride push grows, ruling from unlikely judge could be key

"One of the 10 greatest public health achievements of the 20th century" is how the CDC describes fluoridated water. So why would incoming Trump administration officials advise all U.S. water agencies to remove the cavity-fighting mineral from public water, as Robert F. Kennedy Jr announced on X? The answer in part may lie in a recent decision by an Obama-appointed judge in San Francisco, who found that fluoride at current levels poses "an unreasonable risk of injury" to public health, Jenna Greene writes in her latest column.

Check out other recent pieces from our columnists: Alison Frankel and Jenna Greene

In other news...

Senate Republicans named John Thune majority leader, shrugging off pressure to pick a loyalist to president-elect Donald Trump ... Republicans are inching closer to a U.S. House majority and full control of Congress ... Trump and Biden met at the White House ... Here's how Musk's U.S. government efficiency panel might work ... A "one-of-a-kind" skull fossil from Brazil reveals bird brain evolution ... Here are our top photos of the day ... And John Krasinski was named People magazine's "sexiest man alive."