

Washington Insight



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Advantage Romney After First Debate

Thomas J. Spulak

After Wednesday's much anticipated first debate, several things are clear: Governor Romney is not going away, Romney is much more formidable than many in both parties suspected, the presidential race has been kicked into a higher gear, and President Obama has his hands full for the next debate. [More »](#)

Washington Insight Focuses on lame Duck

Thomas J. Spulak

With about 30 days left until the election, we take a look at various scenarios for when Congress returns for the lame duck session in November. [More »](#)

What the lame Duck Will Look Like if Democrats Retain the White House

Thomas J. Spulak, George C. Crawford, Lloyd N. Hand, Allison F. Kassir, William C. Talmadge

If President Obama is reelected, expect Democrats to argue that they have a mandate to extend certain of the tax breaks for those making under \$250,000 while letting the tax cuts expire for those on the upper income end. In addition, the President will argue for the continuation of the 2 percent reduction in Social Security payroll taxes that is set to expire. [More »](#)

What a Romney Victory Means for the lame Duck

Robert L. Ehrlich, J.C. Boggs, Daniel F. Donovan, Claudia A. Hrvatin, William Clarkson, Lauren M. Donoghue

President-elect Romney would be laser-focused on a blueprint for a long-term budget deal with congressional Democrats, so it unlikely that congressional Republicans would agree to any long-term deal until he takes office. Instead, a more likely scenario is for Congress to simply pass legislation to push back the sequestration trigger date and provide for a short-term extension of the Bush era tax cuts. [More »](#)

Cybersecurity Legislation Unlikely to Pass During lame Duck

J.C. Boggs, Lauren M. Donoghue

With an already full schedule and no clear path forward for compromise, there is not much optimism that Congress will pass a cybersecurity bill this

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China Trade Disputes

Getting to Know the CFPB

Election 2012 Well Under Way, Thanks to Early Voting

Key Dates

October 11: Vice Presidential debate on foreign and domestic policy

October 16: Presidential debate with town hall meeting format on foreign and domestic policy

October 22: Presidential debate on foreign policy

November 6: Election Day

year, regardless of the outcome of the election. Senate Homeland Security Committee Chairman Joe Lieberman (I-CT), for whom passing a comprehensive cybersecurity measure is a major priority, recently conceded that legislation has a less than 50-50 shot of passing during the lame duck session. [More »](#)

China Trade Disputes

Bonnie B. Byers, William C. Talmadge

The United States and China have filed dueling complaints at the World Trade Organization (WTO) in recent weeks. The United States complaint charged the Chinese with providing its auto parts makers with hundreds of millions of dollars annually in improper export subsidies. China countered with a WTO complaint alleging that the U.S. Commerce Department is deliberately and inappropriately targeting Chinese goods as the subject of anti-dumping complaints. [More »](#)

Getting to Know the CFPB

J.C. Boggs, Lauren M. Donoghue

A little over one year ago, the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB) became the nation's first federal agency focused solely on protecting consumers in the financial marketplace. In this critical role, the CFPB promises to shape the market for consumer credit for years to come. On October 17th, King & Spalding will be hosting a thought leadership event featuring CFPB Senior Advisor and Counselor Len Kennedy. [More »](#)

Election 2012 Well Under Way, Thanks to Early Voting

Lauren M. Donoghue

A number of states, including some key swing states, have opened voting weeks ahead of election day. Thirty-two states, plus the District of Columbia, offer some sort of early voting. [More »](#)

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About King & Spalding

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November 13: Congress reconvenes for a lame duck session

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