

## MoFo Snags DOJ's Former Top National Security Lawyer

By **Suevon Lee**

*Law360, Los Angeles (January 10, 2017, 10:44 PM EST)* -- Morrison & Foerster LLP has gained the former top official of the U.S. Department of Justice's National Security Division as chair of its global risk and crisis management practice in New York, the firm announced Tuesday.

John P. Carlin, the former assistant attorney general for the DOJ's National Security Division who stepped down from the role in October, has joined the firm's New York office as partner, where he will advise clients in cyber and national security matters, white collar investigations and government enforcement actions.

The 43-year-old career federal prosecutor said in a statement Tuesday that he was drawn to Morrison & Foerster for its privacy and data security practice, as well as its expertise in technology including the so-called internet of things and autonomous vehicles.

"I look forward to building on the existing expertise across multiple practices to deliver what clients want: strategies to manage and mitigate risk before a crisis occurs and the experience to navigate complex matters throughout a business when the worst happens and the company is on the line," Carlin said.

At the DOJ, Carlin was in charge of protecting the U.S. against international and domestic terrorism, cyber espionage and other national security threats.

Among his career milestones are leading the investigation into the hack on Sony Pictures Entertainment, pressing charges against Iranians working for Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps affiliates for waging cyberattacks against the U.S. financial services sector, and overseeing litigation before the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Court.

His other career highlights include serving as chief of staff and senior counsel for former FBI Director Robert S. Mueller III and serving as national coordinator of the DOJ's Computer Hacking and Intellectual Property Program, and as an assistant U.S. attorney for the District of Columbia.

Carlin, a graduate of Williams College and Harvard Law School, was named by President Barack Obama to lead the DOJ's national security division permanently in September 2013 after serving as its acting head for a number of months.

"[Carlin's] exceptional blend of experience positions him to lead a strong risk and crisis management

practice focused on advising companies responding to global and national security threats," Morrison & Foerster Chair Darren Nashelsky said in a statement.

Carlin is part of a revolving door of former government attorneys gradually transitioning out of public service due to the switch in administrations.

Other departures include that of former general counsel for the U.S. Department of Transportation Katie Thomson to Morrison & Foerster's D.C. office as chair of its transportation group; the move by Leon Fresco, a former deputy assistant attorney general for the DOJ's Civil Division and head of its Office of Immigration, to Holland & Knight LLP's litigation and dispute resolution practice group in D.C.; and the move by Roman Martinez, a former assistant solicitor general, to Latham & Watkins LLP as a partner in its appellate practice in D.C.

--Additional reporting by Adam Lidgett, Kelly Knaub and Cara Mannion. Editing by Catherine Sum.