

Covington Adds State Dept. Veteran To Gov't Affairs Team

By **Chuck Stanley**

Law360, Washington (September 12, 2017, 6:22 PM EDT) -- Covington & Burling LLP has brought on former George W. Bush-era Assistant Secretary of State Stephen G. Rademaker to its public policy and government affairs practice.

Rademaker, who served as assistant secretary of state responsible for arms control and nonproliferation from 2002 to 2006, will focus on legislative and policy issues involving sanctions, trade controls, Committee on Foreign Investment in the U.S. reviews, and national security, the firm said in a Sept. 5 press release.

"Steve's broad experience will be a tremendous benefit to the firm's clients," said Roger Zakheim, co-chair of Covington's public policy and government affairs practice, in a statement. "His understanding of government and policy will undoubtedly enhance our national security capabilities, including in the complex areas of sanctions policy and CFIUS review."

Rademaker joins Covington after 6 ½ years advising on international issues and lobbying as a principal with the Podesta Group. He told Law360 he expects to split his time between advising clients on issues like U.S. sanctions policies and trade regulations, and advocating on policy issues.

An increased reliance on sanctions as a U.S. foreign policy tool, and a presidential administration that has expressed enthusiasm for restrictive trade policies, are likely to drive increased demand for legal expertise for safely navigating new regulations in those areas, Rademaker told Law360.

"You need look no further than the August sanctions bill passed by Congress [against North Korea and Russia]," he said. "There's an expectation that we're going to be seeing more of that."

During his time with the State Department, Rademaker directed the Proliferation Security Initiative and nonproliferation policy toward Iran and North Korea, in addition to leading strategic dialogues with Russian, China, Indian and Pakistan.

Rademaker has also served on the Hill as senior counsel and policy director for national security affairs for former Senate Majority Leader Bill Frist, tackling foreign policy, defense, intelligence and national security policies. Before that, he acted as chief counsel for the House Select Committee on Homeland Security.



Stephen
Rademaker

Under George H.W. Bush, Rademaker served as associate counsel to the president in the Office of White House Counsel, as well as deputy legal adviser to the National Security Council.

Founded in 1919, Covington has more than 1,000 lawyers in offices in Beijing, Brussels, Dubai, Johannesburg, London, Los Angeles, New York, San Francisco, Seoul, Shanghai, Silicon Valley, and Washington, D.C., according to the firm.

--Editing by Adam LoBelia.

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