



Insights

Puzder out, Acosta In as Secretary of Labor Pick

February 15, 2017

By: Fenton D. Strickland

Just a day after CKE Restaurants CEO Andy Puzder, amid allegations of conflicts of interest and possible discontent among employees, withdrew his nomination to serve as Secretary of Labor, President Trump has tabbed R. Alexander Acosta to head the Department of Labor (DOL).

Mr. Acosta has established a long public service resume, including appointments under George W. Bush to the National Labor Relations Board and as Assistant Attorney General in the Civil Rights Division of the Justice Department. He also is the former U.S. Attorney for the Southern District of Florida, and he currently serves as the dean of the law school at Florida International University.

This change in Secretary of Labor pick occurs on the heels of the President's assignment to the DOL of the weighty task of reconsidering the Fiduciary Rule, which we reported in Alerts February 3 and 8. Mr. Acosta's nomination will go before the Senate Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee, which is expected to conduct a confirmation hearing in the next several weeks. We will update this Alert as the confirmation process proceeds.

Please contact an **Employee Benefits professional** at Krieg DeVault with any further questions regarding the above article.