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Breaking News: CPSC Acting Chairman Role to Shift from Nancy Nord to Commissioner Thomas Moore Until New Chairman Is Confirmed

Nancy Nord, Acting Chairman of the Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC), announced that she will transition her leadership role to fellow Commissioner Thomas Moore, effective Monday, June 1. Moore, a Democrat and Clinton-appointed Commissioner since 1995, will serve as agency chief until a new Chairman appointed by President Obama is confirmed by the Senate. Nord plans to serve out her term as Commissioner until 2012.

A Republican appointee, Nord has held the top leadership position through tumultuous times and the historic enactment of the Consumer Product Safety Improvement Act of 2008 (CPSIA), which has created mass confusion and no shortage of unanswered questions and practical implementation problems for importers, manufacturers, distributors and retailers (large and small) trying to understand and comply with the new complex and less than artfully drafted law. Nord's Chief of Staff, Joseph Martyak, said that "she wants to help facilitate the transition," suggesting that a shift from Moore to President Obama's appointee, Inez Moore Tenenbaum, also a Democrat, would make for a smoother transition.

Tenenbaum, [announced on May 5 as the CPSC Chairman nominee](#), is a former state education official from South Carolina and currently special counsel to a law firm in the area of public school finance. Upon confirmation, the incoming Chairman will grapple with many challenges implementing the CPSIA and managing a staff that is transitioning from senior and experienced personnel to an increasing number of staff new to the agency.

NEWSLETTER EDITORS

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New leadership along with President Obama's commitment to increase the number of Commissioners from three to five, and to more than double the CPSC's budget, all add up to significant change ahead in how the agency operates, regulates and enforces the law.

[back to top](#)

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Kerrie L. Campbell Ms. Campbell specializes in consumer product safety counseling and represents major manufacturers and retailers in investigation, enforcement and penalty proceedings before the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) and in matters referred to the U.S. Department of Justice. Ms. Campbell routinely counsels clients regarding compliance with the reporting requirements under the Consumer Product Safety Act, Flammable Fabrics Act and other statutes regulated by the CPSC. She advises clients on product recalls, corrective actions, responses to agency inquiries and Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) requests. She is a member of the Advisory Board for BNA's Product Safety and Liability Reporter.

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