

Klaros Viewpoints | Volume 6 | March 14, 2024

With the banking industry continuing to face uncertainty, we believe the perspectives of industry experts have never been more important.

Brian Graham was quoted in this Financial Times [article](#) about **Capital One's proposed takeover** and this Reuters [article](#) about **short sellers targeting a regional bank ETF**.

"The receptivity to bank M&A of size has not been high in this administration. The flipside of the antitrust or regulatory lens, from a payments network point of view with Visa and Mastercard, this is probably positive for competition."

"Multi-family is of big issue for almost every bank in the country. That is where most of the game will be played in the banking sector."

Kevin Stein gave his thoughts on **Q4 earnings** in this [blog post](#) and was quoted in this American Banker [article](#) about **Cambridge Savings Bank's CEO search**.

"Many analysts describe NYCB's challenges as isolated, idiosyncratic and NY CRE-specific. Given continued deterioration in CRE market indices and the performance of CMBS, we believe that there will indeed be further CRE challenges and problems. But, we also believe the risk varies materially by company, geography, and asset type."

"Boards and management teams typically lean in favor of an in-house solution when considering succession. An in-house candidate understands culture and understands the needs of the organization. They may be able to achieve a level of success, performance and acceptance among the board and management team a lot faster than an unknown outside candidate"

Michele Alt was quoted in this Finance Files [article](#) about **OCC's proposed Rulemaking on Bank Mergers**.

"It's a curious move on the agency's part, given that the number of merger applications has dropped steadily. In that practice, the OCC has plenty of flexibility to calibrate its scrutiny level to the level warranted by any particular application. The proposal does provide helpful indicators of how the agency will identify applications that are likely consistent with approval and applications that raise supervisory or regulatory concerns — which will be very useful to those preparing applications going forward."

Jonah Crane gave his thoughts on **the CFPB's open banking proposal** in this Payments Dive [article](#). *"U.S. consumers have long enjoyed the efficiencies of market-led open banking, and the CFPB's proposal should solidify the existing foundation and usher in a more open, innovative, and competitive consumer financial ecosystem. The new rule is a big step in the right direction, but as always, the devil is in the details."*

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Klaros is an advisory and investment firm focused on the future of financial services. We leverage deep knowledge of innovation, financial services and regulation, broad networks of relationships, and direct experience to help our clients navigate the complexities of financial services regulation.

About Klaros Capital

Klaros Capital provides private capital, backed by deep industry and regulatory expertise, to midsize US banks, enabling growth, M&A, and other value-creating actions.

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