

Sept. 27, 2021

Sarah Dumont Merchak has rejoined the bipartisan lobbying firm Smith-Free Group. Merchak was a vice president at the firm for five years before joining Visa's government relations team. She also worked in the D.C. office of the United Services Automobile Association and the lobbying firm TwinLogic Strategies, and most recently spent two years as legislative affairs director at the Federal Housing Finance Agency.

Mike Gaffin joined the firm in April as a senior vice president from the Marwood Group, where he was chief political strategist. Prior to that he spent time in the offices of Sen. [Sherrod Brown](#) (D-Ohio) and Ted Kennedy and Reps. George Miller and [Anna Eshoo](#) (D-Calif.)