

## Smith Quoted in *Columbus Business First* Story Titled “M&A: Who's buying in 2016?”

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Jeff Smith, a partner in the Vorys Columbus office and a member of the corporate group, was quoted in a *Columbus Business First* story titled “M&A: Who's buying in 2016?.” According to the story, many central Ohio businesses have recovered cash reserves and enabled active mergers and acquisitions strategies.

#### The story states:

*“An unpredictable regulatory environment in the banking industry has kept many larger players from taking big M&A risks, however, and has put pressure on smaller institutions to consolidate, leading to a number of mergers and branch acquisitions at mid-level and community banks.*

*‘Expenses are getting more and more difficult for the smaller banks to deal with, particularly with the regulatory burden, and most aren’t of a size where their income can keep up with that,’ said Jeffery Smith, a partner at Vorys and member of the Ohio Bankers League. ‘You see a lot of the big folks talking to each other, but the big companies haven’t been doing much at all in that area.’”*

To read the entire story, visit the *Columbus Business First* [website](#).  
(Subscription may be required).