

Financial Services Regulatory

Overview

Carton Fields' Financial Services Regulatory attorneys offer a wealth of practical experience and are focused in offering comprehensive regulatory and compliance counseling and thought leadership to our financial services clients. Each primary team member has devoted at least 20 years, and many over 30 years, to counseling clients on regulatory and compliance matters. We are intimately familiar with the current as well as long-standing issues of importance to the financial services industry. We approach issues with a scholarly attention to detail and we are dedicated to inculcating in the next generation of attorneys our commitment to exceptional service.

We practice as a team and draw on our collective experience and knowledge to benefit our clients. We also collaborate with Carlton Fields' litigation and enforcement attorneys in helping clients to identify, evaluate, and mitigate potential risk of a potential course of action.

Clients We Serve

Investment Companies and Private Funds

Carlton Fields lawyers have decades of experience advising a broad range of investment companies including mutual funds, insurance company separate accounts and private funds, on virtually every aspect of their businesses, including, formation, registration, operation, distribution, transactions, compliance, and enforcement.

Our clients routinely call upon us for guidance and analysis on the regulation of their products services firms under the federal securities laws and the availability of various exclusions from the Securities Act and Investment Company Act. We also regularly assist our clients in obtaining relief from regulation through the exemptive application or no-action letter process.

Our work for investment company and private fund clients includes specific experience in the following areas:

- Formation and organization
- Design, structure, and operations of investment portfolios
- Federal and state registration, regulation, disclosure, and reporting

- Public offerings of mutual fund, closed-end, and ETF shares
- Private offerings of private equity funds, stable value funds, and other pooled investment vehicles
- Listing on securities exchanges
- Advertising, marketing, and distribution
- Administration, custodial, and other service arrangements
- Negotiation of credit agreements
- Documentation of derivatives trading arrangements, including negotiation of brokerage agreements, clearing agreements, and collateral pledge and control agreements
- Mergers, asset transfers, portfolio "lift outs," substitutions, and other transactions
- Board and committee meetings and independent trustee representation
- Securities compliance
- ERISA compliance
- Taxation
- Anti-money laundering and OFAC compliance
- Regulatory examinations and investigations

Related: Private Equity and Venture Capital, Securities Transactions and Compliance, and Securities & Investment Companies.

Key Contacts



Investment Advisers

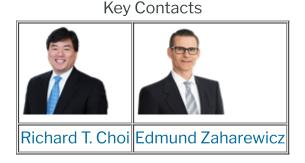
Carlton Fields represents investment advisers in all aspects of their business and in all stages of their development from inception and beyond. We have extensive experience representing

investment advisers on the full range of regulatory, compliance, and enforcement matters, including:

- Formation and registration
- Form ADV brochure and other disclosures
- Investment management agreements (IMAs)
- Suitability questionnaires and investment policy statements (IPSs)
- Advertising
- Custody
- Codes of ethics
- Compliance policies and procedures, such as:
 - Advertising
 - Anti-money laundering and OFAC compliance
 - Best execution, batched trades, and other trading practices
 - Books and records
 - Cash solicitations
 - Codes of ethics
 - Custody
 - Cybersecurity and privacy
 - Disclosure obligations
 - Insider trading
 - Reporting obligations
 - Suitability
 - Supervision
- Compliance and risk reviews
- Conflicts of interest
- Due diligence

- Employment agreements and related matters
- Customer complaint handling and arbitrations
- Regulatory examinations and investigations
- Enforcement proceedings and litigation
- Training and education
- Adviser acquisitions and "liftouts"

Related: Private Equity and Venture Capital, Securities Transactions and Compliance, and Securities & Investment Companies.



Broker-Dealers

Carlton Fields represents a variety of broker-dealers, including wholesale and retail broker-dealers affiliated with life insurance companies, independent retail broker-dealers, dually registered broker-dealer/insurance agencies, and dually registered broker-dealer/registered investment advisers. Our extensive experience covers the full range of activities from the formation and registration of broker-dealers and FINRA membership matters to operational, transactional, regulatory, and compliance matters.

Related: Securities & Investment Companies.

Key ContactsImage: Second secon

Insurance Companies

Carlton Fields represents life insurance companies, health insurance companies, and property and casualty insurance companies, as well as reinsurers, specialty insurers, agents, managing general agents, third-party administrators, and other regulated entities in the insurance field. Our extensive experience covers the full range of activities from the offer and sale of insurance products to organizational, operational, transactional, regulatory, and legislative matters.



Services We Provide

Broker-Dealer Organization, Registration, and FINRA Membership

Carlton Fields guides clients through broker-dealer formation, registration, and FINRA new membership application (NMA) process. We also guide clients through the FINRA continuing membership application (CMA) process when there is a material change to the broker-dealer's business. Our services also include registered representative registration filings and termination issues.

Broker-Dealer Regulation and Compliance

Carlton Fields guides clients through broker-dealer regulatory and compliance issues. Our work for broker-dealer clients includes specific experience in the following areas:

- Written supervisory procedures, supervisory control policies, and compliance procedures
- Suitability policies and procedures
- Compliance and risk evaluation reviews
- Net capital obligations
- Reporting obligations

- Customer complaint handling
- Product due diligence
- Advertising and marketing materials
- AML and OFAC compliance
- Books and records requirements
- Cash and noncash compensation arrangements and fee referral issues
- Sales to vulnerable adults
- Privacy rules
- Email retention and production
- Principal underwriters (including statutory underwriter questions)
- Selling group arrangements
- Independent marketing organizations (IMOs)
- Interactions between investment adviser regulation and broker-dealer regulation and between insurance regulation and broker-dealer regulation

Broker-Dealer Arbitration and Dispute Resolution

Carlton Fields guides and represents broker-dealers and other market professionals through internal investigations, inquiries and proceedings initiated by the SEC and FINRA. Our firm handles all phases of SEC and FINRA inquiries and investigations, including responding to Wells notices and defending against enforcement actions.

Our securities law litigators handle FINRA arbitrations and other disputes regarding securities issues throughout the country, with responsibilities that range from responding to employee/registered representative dispute counseling, regulatory inquiries and pre-complaint investigations to arbitrating and litigating claims of securities fraud. We routinely defend underwriters and other broker-dealers, including their officers and directors, against class action litigation, shareholder derivative actions, suites arising out of failed securities offerings and other complex matters involving the Securities Act, the Exchange Act, and the Investment Company Act of 1940.

Related: Securities and Litigation and Enforcement, White Collar Crime & Government Investigations, Alternative Dispute Resolution Services, and Class Actions.

Insurance Products and Distribution

Our attorneys have earned a national reputation in the area of annuity and life insurance products regulation. We have extensive experience with the design, marketing, sale, and regulation of variable annuities and variable life insurance products, individual and group annuities, contingent deferred annuities, fixed indexed annuities, market value adjustment (MVA) products, COLI/BOLI, funding agreements, stable value wrap contracts, and other innovative products. Our work on behalf of clients includes all aspects of federal and state regulation involved in bringing an insurance product to market, including advice and counseling on matters such as:

- Product design
- Policy drafting and state and IIPRC approval
- Insurance licensing and expansion of authority
- Public offerings and private offerings
- Marketing, sales, and communication practices
- Distribution relationships with producers, managing general agents, and underwriters
- Suitability and replacement requirements
- Tax issues related to insurance products
- ERISA compliance
- Anti-money laundering and OFAC compliance

Insurance Regulation

Carlton Fields has extensive experience advising clients on a wide range of insurance regulatory matters, including:

- Approval of form and rate filings, and regulatory litigation to contest denials of form and rate submissions
- Investments, solvency, risk-based capital, reserve credit, SVO valuation, and holding company issues
- Claims practices, use of retained assets accounts, and unclaimed property

- Market conduct, financial, and other investigations and examinations, financial examinations, and regulatory litigation arising from them
- Investigations under state and federal unfair trade practice laws and similar consumer protection laws
- Investigations and audits regarding Florida premium tax, retaliatory tax, corporate income tax, and sales or use tax
- License disciplinary proceedings
- Disputes concerning the validity or amount of residual market assessments against insurers, and premium and retaliatory tax assessments
- Disputes regarding the validity and constitutionality of legislation and agency rules adversely affecting entities regulated under insurance codes
- Data protection and privacy regulation
- Trade secret and proprietary information protection in connection with insurance regulatory reporting requirements and in the course of rehabilitation or liquidation proceedings against impaired or insolvent direct insurers
- Outsourcing and offshoring information technology systems and business processes
- Insurance regulatory financial issues concerning surplus notes, administration of deposits, and the status of insurer assets, liabilities, and investments under state insurance statutory accounting statutes.

Insurance Transactions

We routinely assist insurance clients with a variety of insurance transactions and related regulatory issues, including:

- Formation or acquisition of insurance companies
- Insurance company mergers and acquisitions
- Corporate restructuring
- Portfolio transfers, sales or transfers due to insolvency proceedings
- Sales of insurance agencies and brokerage firms
- Reinsurance arrangements

- Separate account transfers, reorganizations, and deregistrations
- Applications for issuance of certificates of authority and other insurance licenses, and litigation to contest denials of licensure
- Applications for regulatory approval for acquisitions and changes of control
- Approvals for exemptions from Form A requirements or disclaimers of control in Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Kentucky, Louisiana, North Carolina, New York, Ohio, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Vermont, Wisconsin, and Puerto Rico
- Approval of bulk reinsurance transactions and accredited reinsurer status

ERISA/Tax

We offer comprehensive regulatory and compliance counseling to insurance companies, investment companies, and other clients in the financial services industry with regard to a broad range of tax and ERISA matters relating to:

- Life insurance contracts
- Qualified and nonqualified annuities
- Qualified and nonqualified retirement plans
- Individual retirement accounts (IRAs)
- Health insurance and other welfare benefit plans

We have extensive experience advising clients concerning the fiduciary and prohibited transaction provisions of ERISA. In this capacity, we consulted extensively with numerous insurers or their affiliates concerning a wide variety of issues arising out of the DOL's and SEC's fiduciary and best interest proposals. We also advise on the taxation of annuities, life insurance contracts, and regulated investment companies. We have represented clients on numerous matters before both the Internal Revenue Service and the Department of Labor.

Legislative Matters

We routinely help clients understand the political landscape before pursuing a strategy or policy position. We identify, track, monitor, analyze, and summarize legislative proposals and political and policy considerations, and can assess their impact on operations. We also monitor the activities of the NAIC, NCOIL, and major consumer representative trade organizations for potential regulatory

developments. We testify, draft legislation and amendments to legislation, pass or defeat legislative proposals, and use our extensive political relationships to advocate client positions.

Insights

04.29.2024 DOL Releases New Fiduciary Rule, Broadens Definition of Investment Advice Under ERISA

04.01.2024 Life Insurance and Annuity Developments *The Investment Lawyer*

03.12.2024 SEC Seeks to Extend Insider Trading Law to 'Shadow Trading' in SEC v. Panuwat *Daily Journal*

01.18.2024 FINRA Issues 2024 Annual Regulatory Oversight Report

01.11.2024 Funds Not Caged by SEC Names Rule Amendments: Roaming Room Remains

01.11.2024 In the Big Top Spotlight: NAIC Model Bulletin on the Use of Artificial Intelligence Systems by Insurers

01.11.2024 NASAA Report on BD Compliance With Reg BI: Finds Progress, but Specifies Work To Be Done

01.11.2024

IRS Gives Equal Billing to an Adviser Life Insurance Contract: Treats Adviser's Fee the Same as Under Adviser Annuities

01.11.2024

SEC Wants More Securities Traders Under Its Dealer Big Top: Would Require Exchange Act Registration by More Regular Traders

01.11.2024 NAIC H Committee Continues as Ringmaster Coordinating Numerous Initiatives

01.01.2024 Mixed Signals: SEC De-Emphasizes Disclosure of Section 15(c) Process While Deeming Process an Exam Priority and Considering New Fund Fee Disclosure Rule *The Investment Lawyer*

11.08.2023 DOL Tries Once Again To Define What Constitutes Investment Advice Under ERISA

11.03.2023 Tailored Specifically: Recent SEC Regulatory Developments Relating to Advertising

09.28.2023 Regulators Hit Jackpot: Off-Channel Communications

09.28.2023 SEC Proposal Balances AI-Like Technology Use With Investor Best Interests: Has the Regulator Picked a Winner?

09.28.2023 New York Department of Financial Services Plays Pit Boss for Consumer Protection

09.28.2023 Supreme Court Plays Its Cards on Constitutionality of SEC In-House Court Actions

09.28.2023 NAIC Innovation, Cybersecurity, and Technology (H) Committee Gets in on the Action 09.01.2023 Life Insurance and Annuity Developments *The Investment Lawyer*

08.04.2023 Colorado DOI Fast-Tracks Big Data Governance Rulemaking

08.01.2023 SEC Budget Request Seeks 170 New Staff Mainly for Enforcement and Rulemaking *The Investment Lawyer*

06.20.2023 Colorado DOI Summer Reading for Life Insurers

06.01.2023 SEC Releases Five-Year Strategic Plan *The Investment Lawyer*

05.25.2023 Catching More Flies With Honey: Recent DOJ Policy Changes to Coax Cooperation From Corporate Defendants

05.25.2023 Private Fund Advisers on the Hotplate: SEC Turning Up the Heat

05.25.2023 AML Whistleblowers Now Have More Appetizing Options

05.25.2023 Regulators Looking to Various Kitchen Tools to Regulate Insurers' Use of Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning

05.25.2023 STOLI Fallout: Stepping Into the Post-Void

05.25.2023 Reg BI Cooking Instructions: Based on SEC/FINRA Exams

05.25.2023 ETFs in Variable Contracts: A New Marketing Opportunity?

05.25.2023 Social Media Influencers Take Center Stage

05.25.2023 SEC Relief for RILA Issuers to Use Statutory Financials: Has the Moratorium Been Lifted?

05.25.2023 NAIC's New Privacy Protections Recipe

05.25.2023 ETF Share Transactions Based on Nonpublic Information: An Illegal Secret Ingredient?

05.25.2023 SEC Places Short Order for T+1: But Insurance Products Mostly Off the Menu

05.25.2023 Medical Incapacity Does Not Toll Life Insurance Conversion Period

05.25.2023 SEC Stirs Its Pot of Cybersecurity Preparedness and Response Proposals

05.02.2023 SEC's Controversial Fund Proxy Voting Disclosure Requirements Come into Play *The Investment Lawyer*

04.13.2023 SEC's Proposed Swing Pricing and Hard Close Rule: A Hard Sell *The Investment Lawyer* 04.02.2023 SEC Adoption of Forward Pricing Rule 22c-1 -- Before Swing Pricing, There Was Backward and Forward Pricing of Mutual Fund Shares *The Investment Lawyer*

03.04.2023 SEC's Order Competition Rule Is Regulation by Speculation *Law360*

03.02.2023 SEC Probes Fund Section 15(c) Process *The Investment Lawyer*

03.01.2023 SEC Proposes to Remake Advisers Act Custody Rule for a Modern World

02.28.2023 Regulators Gearing Up to Monitor Accelerated Underwriting Programs

02.16.2023 A Coming Seismic Shift in Administrative Law? Or Just a Tremor?

02.16.2023 SEC Brings Broker-Dealer Electronic Recordkeeping Rules Out of Deep Freeze

02.16.2023 SEC Would Mandate Swing Pricing: Badly Upending Most Funds' Procedures

02.16.2023 Insurors' Vendor Relationships May Get Wintery Gusts: A Chill for Consumer Data, Artificial Intelligence (AI), and Machine Learning (ML) Services?

02.16.2023 SEC Revamps Fund Shareholder Reporting and Fee/Expense Advertising Rules

02.16.2023 Increased Visibility Into Fund Proxy Voting: SEC Adopts Controversial Requirements

02.16.2023 No Hibernation for Issuers of Index-Linked Variable Annuities and Index Universal Life

02.16.2023 Digital Assets: An Expanding Arena for Insider Trading and Market Manipulation

02.16.2023 SEC and CFTC Fines for Texting Augur Billions More from DOJ

02.16.2023 Suicide-By-Cop Precludes Death Benefits

02.16.2023 FINRA Settles Its First Reg BI Action

02.16.2023 A Flurry of Algorithmic Activity at the NAIC 2022 Fall National Meeting

02.16.2023 New Year, New Privacy Shakedowns: Six Resolutions for Keeping Warm

01.19.2023 FINRA Issues 2023 Report on Examination and Risk Monitoring Program

11.02.2022 FINRA Issues New Guidance on Succession Planning as Population of Registered Representatives Ages

10.20.2022 Financial Services Cyber Fraud: The Latest Risks and Best Responses

10.07.2022 Regulation S-ID: Financial Institutions Take Note

10.01.2022 The Digital Asset Regulatory Landscape Begins to Take Shape: The Responsible Financial Innovation Act *The Investment Lawyer*

09.29.2022 Colorado Division of Insurance Announces Life Insurance Underwriting Data Call and Survey Details

09.08.2022 NAIC Proposes Actuarial Guidelines for Index-Linked Variable Annuities

09.08.2022 NCOIL Protests Insurers' Offers of Enhanced Cash Surrender Values

09.08.2022 FINRA's Expansive View of "Participation" in a Private Securities Transaction

09.08.2022 SEC Casts Wider Investment Adviser Net: May Ensnare Index and Other Providers

09.08.2022 Terminal Funding Annuities Smooth Rough Seas for Defined-Benefit Plans

09.08.2022 SLUSA Dismissal Affirmed in Variable Annuity Class Action: Eleventh Circuit Looks Behind Artful Pleading

09.08.2022 SEC Files Groundbreaking Reg BI Complaint

09.08.2022 What's Up With WhatsApp and Text Messaging? SEC and FINRA Weigh In

09.08.2022 SEC Proposes Fund ESG Disclosure Channels: Different ESG Strategies Must Row in Their Lanes

09.08.2022 Attacks on the SEC Administrative Citadel

09.08.2022 Learn From Lemonade's Privacy Lemon: Sweeten Compliance to Lessen Litigation Bitterness

09.08.2022 SEC Clobbers Crypto Lending Platform but Allows Some Retooling

09.08.2022 To Prevent Algorithms From Heading Off Course, Regulators Consider Testing

09.08.2022 Circuit Courts Continue to Navigate ERISA's Murky Waters

09.08.2022 Recent Developments in Life Insurance Litigation

09.08.2022 US-Mexico Presidents Shake Hands on Cross-Border Trade Talks

09.08.2022 Private Equity Investments in Insurance Companies: Regulators Approach From All Directions

09.01.2022 Life Insurance and Annuity Developments *The Investment Lawyer* 08.04.2022 SEC Budget Request Seeks 400 New Staff; More than Half for Enforcement and Examinations *The Investment Lawyer*

07.27.2022 Florida Announces Temporary Reinsurance Arrangement for Insurers in Light of Potential Rating Downgrades

07.12.2022 The Colorado Division of Insurance Continues to Navigate Life Insurer's Use of ECDIS and Algorithms

07.05.2022 California Throws Shade at Insurance Industry's Use of Big Data and Algorithms

06.07.2022 OIR Releases Details on New Reinsurance Program: Rate Filing for 2022-2023 Contract Year Due June 30

06.01.2022 Regulatory Monitor SEC Update *The Investment Lawyer*

05.18.2022 Duties and Non-Duties of Directors of Mutual Funds Underlying Life Insurance Company Separate Accounts Funding Variable Insurance Contracts *The Investment Lawyer*

05.11.2022 Continued SEC/FINRA "Complex" Product Concerns: Will Good Regulatory Harvest Arrive?

05.11.2022 Foreign Ownership of Florida Insurers: Concern With Country Concentration 05.11.2022

SEC Proposes Sea Change in Private Fund Regulation: Doing Indirectly What It Could Not Do Directly?

05.11.2022 SEC Whistleblower Proposals Continue Reversal of Trump-Era Rules

05.11.2022 With Spring in the Air, States Renew Their Efforts to Allow Value-Added Products and Services

05.11.2022 NAIC's Privacy Protections Working Group Plans Extended Growing Season for Fall 2023 Harvest

05.11.2022 Action-Packed Spring for NAIC Special Committee on Race and Insurance

05.11.2022 SEC Cultivates Shadow Trading Theory: Emerging Species of 10b-5 Violation?

05.11.2022 NAIC's New Cybersecurity Working Group Prepares for Planting

05.11.2022 SEC Showers Down Proposed Cybersecurity Rules: 5 Steps for Staying Dry

05.11.2022 Flowers Sprout in the Consumer Data Regulation Garden

05.11.2022 Coming Out of Winter Hibernation

05.11.2022 A Hailstorm for Private Fund Advisers? SEC Clouds the Horizon

05.11.2022 Shortened Settlement Cycle Sprouts at SEC (T+1 for T+2)

05.09.2022 SEC IM Division Director William Birdthistle's Mutual Fund Views Revealed in His Book *The Investment Lawyer*

04.19.2022 The Picture Becomes Clearer as Colorado Holds Second Stakeholder Meeting

03.24.2022 Colorado Division of Insurance Steps Up to the Plate for a Second Stakeholder Meeting

02.28.2022 Regulators Hop One Step Forward, Two Steps Back on IUL Illustrations

02.22.2022 Colorado Division of Insurance "Conducts" Its First Stakeholder Meeting

02.17.2022 FINRA Issues 2022 Report on Examination and Risk Monitoring Program

02.15.2022 SEC Plants New Cybersecurity Regulations; Time Will Tell What Will Bloom

01.28.2022 One More New Year's Party – Colorado's Stakeholder Process Begins

01.11.2022 What Will the SEC Do About the "Gamification" of Trading in 2022?

01.11.2022 FINRA Atwitter Over Social Media Influencers

01.11.2022 New Year, New Index-Linked Variable Annuity Actuarial Guideline?

01.11.2022 Regulators Forecast Storm of Cybersecurity Activity

01.11.2022

Universal Life Policyowner Not Entitled to Pro Rata Premium Refund Following Insured's Death

01.11.2022 When Congress Freezes Up, the NAIC's Privacy Protections Working Group Lights a Fire

01.11.2022 SEC Publishes Fund Compliance Shortfalls

01.11.2022 Big Changes Ahead for Private Funds? SEC Chair's Transparent Intent

01.11.2022 A Cold Blast From the Index Universal Life Illustration (A) Subgroup

01.11.2022 Al Insurance Company Faces Class Action for Use of Biometric Data

01.11.2022 SEC Tolling Agreements Upheld: Second Circuit Lifts Tollgate

01.11.2022 Scrutiny of Algorithms and Consumer Data

01.11.2022 California Decisions Kick Off Parade of Life Insurance Lapse Notice Cases

01.11.2022 Insurance Industry Leads on DEI Initiatives

11.08.2021 Oregon DFR Invites Insurers to Discuss Ad Filing Requirements

11.05.2021 The SEC May Soon Propose Changes to Equity Market Structure: What Traders Should Know *Traders Magazine*

11.04.2021

"Reasonable" Does Not Mean Perfect: Recent FINRA Regulatory Developments and Interpretive Questions

11.01.2021 SEC Chair Gensler's Mutual Fund Views Revealed in His Book *The Investment Lawyer*

10.19.2021 Workers' Compensation Rate Hearing and Proposed Cat Fund

10.18.2021 FOIR Releases Guidance on New Disclosure Requirements for Health Insurers, MCOs

10.15.2021 Life Insurance and Annuity Developments *The Investment Lawyer*

10.05.2021 SEC's Upcoming Report on GameStop and Payment for Order Flow: What to Watch

10.01.2021 Federal Securities Law Considerations for Section 403(b) Plans *Wolters Kluwer*

09.16.2021 SEC Deep-Sixes Offering Integration Test: New Rules Replace the Old Five Factors

09.16.2021 Insurers Need to Do Their Homework: Review of the Use of Data, Algorithms, and Predictive Models

09.16.2021 The Three R's of LTC Insurance and Wellness: Regulation, Rebates, and RBOs

09.16.2021 The NAIC's New E-Commerce Class

09.16.2021 Annuity Litigation Roundup

09.16.2021 Possible SEC Proxy/Whistleblower Rule U-Turns? Could Reverse Trump-Era Actions

09.16.2021 Diving Into IoT Data? Here Are Some Privacy Considerations

09.16.2021 Stopping GameStop Games: Regulators Eye Payment for Order Flow

09.16.2021 Regulation Best Interest and Form CRS: Examinations and Enforcement Heat Up

09.16.2021 SEC Takes ESG Disclosure Plunge: An Ocean of Issues Swirls

09.16.2021 NAIC Illustration Work Stagnates in the Dog Days of Summer

09.16.2021 State Law Steers STOLI Cases, Drives Federal Court Outcomes

09.10.2021 SEC Targets Payment for Order Flow: What Broker-Dealers and Wholesale Market Makers Should Know

07.26.2021 Regulators Consider Payment for Order Flow and the Gamification of Trading After GameStop

07.15.2021 DFS Continues Focus on Cybersecurity: Issues Ransomware Guidance and Signals Increased Enforcement Actions

06.10.2021 Regulatory Monitor: Life Insurance and Annuity Developments *The Investment Lawyer*

06.01.2021 Investor Advocate Rebukes SEC, Calls for Rule Reversals and Legislation *The Investment Lawyer*

05.05.2021 Spring Is Hot for State Privacy Legislation

05.05.2021 Converting Mutual Funds to ETFs: A Fertile Field?

05.05.2021 A Rocky Road Ahead for Insurers Using Consumer Data and Models

05.05.2021 Cast Into the Deep: Questions for Charting New Privacy Waters

05.05.2021 The Gift of Giving: States Move to Amend Their Anti-Rebating Laws

05.05.2021 More Aggressive Enforcement Sprouts at SEC

05.05.2021 New Era for Variable Product Fund Substitutions: SEC Removes Obstacles

05.05.2021 Let a Thousand Flowers Bloom: Advisory Voices Proliferate at SEC

05.05.2021 A Future Without SEC Tolling Agreements? Some Say "Not So Fast"

05.05.2021 New "Buffered" VA and VLI Investment Options: Will Compete With Index-Linked Options

05.05.2021 States Spring Into Action With Best Interest Rules for Annuities

05.05.2021 Minimum Standard Nonforfeiture Rate – Green Light, Red Light

05.01.2021 SEC's Fledgling Asset Management Advisory Committee Begins to Spread Its Wings *The Investment Lawyer*

05.01.2021 Regulatory Monitor: SEC Update *The Investment Lawyer* 04.09.2021 Non-Fungible Tokens (NFTs) as Art Loan Collateral *Business Law Today*

04.01.2021 Regulatory Monitor - Life Insurance and Annuity Developments *The Investment Lawyer*

03.02.2021 SEC Limits Need for Substitution Applications

12.15.2020 SEC Reforms Whistleblower Program

12.15.2020 DOL to Plan Sponsors: "It's All About the Benjamins!"

12.15.2020 Collective Investment Trust Muddle

12.15.2020 SEC Streamlines Fund of Fund Relief, Requires Life Company 'Certification'

12.15.2020 Arbitration Provision Survives Agent Termination

12.15.2020 A New Dawning for Electronic Insurance and Investment Product Transactions and Document Delivery?

12.15.2020 New Jersey Enacts Anti-STOLI Law 12.15.2020 Great-West Wins 36(b) Fee Case

12.15.2020 NAIC Rings in a New Year for Addressing Racial Inequities

12.15.2020 Not If, But When: Applying the ADA's Accessibility Requirements to Mobile Apps

12.15.2020 Seniors in the Coming Year

12.15.2020 NAIC Task Force Gives Insurers a Holiday Rebating Gift

12.15.2020 A New Beginning for Fund Derivative Regulation

12.15.2020 NAIC Groups Adopt 2021 Charges

12.15.2020 New Year, New Duties in the Sale of Annuities

11.16.2020 SEC Proposes Big Changes to Mutual Fund Disclosure Framework *The Investment Lawyer*

09.03.2020 AI Challenges for Securities Firms: Key Summer Reading From FINRA

09.03.2020 Topsy-Turvy World of Accelerated Underwriting and Artificial Intelligence

09.03.2020 NAIC Virtual Block Party

09.03.2020 SEC Proposes Big Changes to Fund Disclosure

09.03.2020 IRS Continues Hot Streak: Issues Additional Favorable Fee-Based Annuity Rulings

09.03.2020 Not Quite Across the Suitability Finish Line

09.03.2020 Back to School for Annuity and Life Disclosures and Illustrations

09.03.2020 Gag Orders: Stifling Effect on SEC Critics

09.03.2020 ASB Airs Summer Rerun: Seeks Round 2 of ASOP 2 Comments

09.03.2020 SEC Still Cool With Virtual Fund Board Meetings

09.03.2020 OCIE Turns Up Heat on Private Fund Adviser Compliance

09.03.2020 Court Throws Cold Water on SEC Disgorgement Remedy

09.03.2020 FINRA Corporate Financing Rule Amendments Bring Clarity for Insurance Products

09.03.2020 No Summer Break for the Rebating Drafting Group

08.18.2020 SEC Proposes Changes to Fund Shareholder Reports, Prospectuses, SAIs, and Ads

07.09.2020 Variable Product Disclosure Reform: Decision Points for Insurers

06.25.2020 Is It Time to Come Out and Play? New Rules Proposed on What Constitutes Rebating

05.06.2020 NAIC Restarts Its Work Revising Its Model Privacy Provisions

05.05.2020 FINRA's Examination Priorities and Findings for 2020 *American Bar Association*

04.17.2020 Regulatory Monitor: SEC Update *The Investment Lawyer*

04.13.2020 Policy Lapse Notice Claims on the Rise in California

04.13.2020 New Jersey Springs Into Action: New Bill to Ban STOLI Policies

04.13.2020 Intel's Intel Doesn't Prove Actual Knowledge: Court Rejects Short ERISA Statute of Limitations

04.13.2020 Securities Regulators' Rx for COVID-19

04.13.2020 Long Jail Term for Crooked Insurance Agent: Claimed Comp for Phony Policy Sales

04.13.2020 Peering Into Regulators' Views on Artificial Intelligence

04.13.2020 Supreme Court Won't Review Key ERISA Case: A Boost for Index Funds?

04.13.2020 Spring Cleaning on the NAIC Model Privacy Laws

04.13.2020 A Spring Into Chaos: Massachusetts Adopts Fiduciary Rule

04.13.2020 Visit the Carlton Fields COVID-19 Resource Page

04.13.2020 New Enforcement Powers for NYDFS? More Sanctions and More Defendants

04.13.2020 OCIE Continues Relentless Cybersecurity Focus

04.13.2020 Sprouting: Modernized Variable Product Disclosures: SEC Approves Summary Prospectuses

04.13.2020 Fidelity Beats Back ERISA Challenge: Infrastructure Fee Complaint Dismissed

04.13.2020 Did Your Text Message or Phone Call Campaign Use an Illegal "Autodialer"?

04.13.2020 NAIC Tills the Accelerated Underwriting Garden

04.13.2020 Cases of Purloined Company Documents: When Terminated Employees Steal

03.27.2020 Coronavirus State Insurance Regulatory Developments

02.20.2020 Fund Advisers Face Another Class of Plaintiffs Bringing Section 36(b) Lawsuits *The Investment Lawyer*

02.14.2020 Suitability Model Crosses the Finish Line

02.06.2020 NAIC Life Insurance and Annuities (A) Committee Ends 2019 With a Big Bang

02.06.2020 Reg BI Compliance Countdown: T-Minus Six Months

02.06.2020 OCIE Risk Alert Highlights Compliance Program Catch-22

02.06.2020 2019 Year-End Class Action Roundup

02.06.2020 Round and Round – Will 2020 Bring the End to Inconsistent Anti-Rebating Prohibitions?

02.06.2020 FSOC: "Too Big to Fail" Has Failed

02.06.2020 Life Insurance That Benefits the Living

02.06.2020 Clarity on Application of California Usury Law: Insurers Not Subject to Compound Interest Limitations

02.06.2020 Innovation and Technology at the NAIC 2019 Fall Meeting

02.06.2020 SEC Pressures Advisers on Undisclosed Conflicts

02.06.2020 Second Circuit Opens Door to Lawsuits Based on Contract Violating 1940 Act

02.06.2020 Insurance Company High-Yield Real Estate Investments

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08.27.2019 National Credit Union Administration Gives Credit Unions the Green Light to Serve Lawfully Operating Businesses

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07.11.2019 Unpacking the SEC's Regulation Best Interest Package

07.11.2019 New Chair on the Block Discusses Reconstructing the Suitability Model

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07.11.2019 DC Circuit: Willful Means Intentional Under the Advisers Act – Negligent Conduct Cannot Be Willful Conduct

07.11.2019 Supreme Court Casts a Wide Net with Rule 10b-5

07.11.2019 Illinois Supreme Court Nails Down Status in Big Market: Indexed Annuities Are Not Securities

07.11.2019 Class Certification Denied in Universal Life "Risk Rates" Litigation

04.04.2019 New Procedures for Mutual Fund and Insurance Product SEC Filings

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04.04.2019 NAIC Illustration Regulation Races Index Product Innovation

04.04.2019 SEC Open to Modern Communications by Advisers

04.04.2019 Read Your Policy Carefully: UL Policy's Plain Language Requires Dismissal of Putative Class Action Challenging Increased Premiums and COI Rates

04.04.2019 FINRA Trumpets Variable Annuity Sales Problems While SEC Falls Silent

04.04.2019 Circuit Court Rules Insurance Agents Are Not "Employees" Under ERISA

02.25.2019 Court Finds No Coverage for \$42 Million False Claims Act Suit Due To Late Reporting

01.29.2019 NY DFS Delivers an Icy Blast to Insurers Using External Data Sources and Algorithmic Underwriting

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12.18.2018 New Jersey Fiduciary Rule Pre-Proposal

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12.18.2018 Various NAIC Groups Discuss a Cornucopia of Life and Annuity Topics

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12.18.2018 Parent Company Guarantees of Annuities

12.18.2018 Buffer ETFs vs. Index-Linked Annuities

12.18.2018 Executive Compensation Disclosure – Partial Relief for Insurance Products

12.12.2018 What Can Brazilian Banks Expect Under Bolsonaro? *Financial Services Advisor*

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10.25.2018 Suitability Working Group Stirs Ingredients for Suitability Model Potion

10.01.2018 As Students Return to School, Regulators Continue Their Study of the NAIC's Suitability in Annuity Transaction Model Regulation

10.01.2018 NIST Provides Guide and Example Solution for IT Asset Management

10.01.2018 FINRA Targets Variable Annuity Practices

10.01.2018 XBRL Amendments Have Limited Impact on Insurance Products

10.01.2018 Protecting At-Risk Seniors from Financial Exploitation

10.01.2018 SEC Proposes New Rule Impacting ETFs

10.01.2018 SEC: Ether and Bitcoin Are Not Securities

10.01.2018 SEC Proceedings Face Uncertainty After Supreme Court Holds ALJs Unconstitutional

10.01.2018 Dodd-Frank Rollback Benefits Insurers

10.01.2018 NAIC Summer National Meeting Spotlights Innovation and Insurtech

10.01.2018 In California, a New Era in U.S. Privacy

10.01.2018 SEC 'Investor Experience Initiative' Expressly Includes Variable Insurance Products

07.20.2018 New York Issues Final Life Insurance and Annuity Suitability and Best Interests Regulation

06.25.2018 FINRA Proposes to Ease Regulation of Outside Business Activities

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To Preempt or Not to Preempt - Courts Issue Competing SLUSA Rulings

06.25.2018 Ninth Circuit: Face Amount Controls Amount-in-Controversy Questions Where Policy's Validity is Disputed

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06.25.2018 Supreme Court Set to Rule on Constitutionality of SEC's ALJs

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06.25.2018 Recalls of Loaned Securities by Insurance Dedicated Funds

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06.25.2018 Unclaimed Life Insurance Benefits: The First Half of 2018 in Review

06.25.2018 COI Litigation Update

06.25.2018 New York Pushes Mutual Fund Active Share Disclosure

06.25.2018 FINRA Moves Toward SEC Anti-Churning Proposal

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06.25.2018 South Carolina First State to Adopt NAIC Insurance Data Security Model Law

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03.31.2018 State Suitability, Fiduciary Duty and Disclosure Initiatives Roundup

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03.31.2018 Court Rejects Insurer's Spokeo-Based Standing Challenge to TCPA Action

03.31.2018 When Innovation Meets Regulation: InsurTech and State Licensing Laws

03.31.2018 An Illustration Saga Continues in California

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New York Department of Financial Services Rings in the New Year With New Suitability Requirements for Insurance Companies

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Did Santa Give the Insurance Industry a Lump of Coal or a Diamond in the Rough?

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12.29.2017 Regulators Continue to Scrutinize Initial Coin Offerings

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12.29.2017 The NAIC Says Aloha

12.29.2017 SEC Committee Advocates for Summary Mutual Fund Shareholder Reports

12.29.2017 The Impact of the EU Requirement to 'Unbundle' Research Costs

12.29.2017 SEC Exam Staff: "Surprise, We're Back"

12.29.2017 Treasury Department Urges SEC to Act on Life Company Products

12.05.2017 The DOL Fiduciary Rule: Charting a Course, Avoiding Collisions & Potential Litigation Q&A #4

11.28.2017 New Model Regulation Gives Insurers Little to Be Thankful For

10.25.2017 NAIC Insurance Data Security Model Law – States Are Next

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10.02.2017 New York Adopts Non-Guaranteed Elements Rule for Life Insurance and Annuity Products

09.26.2017 SEC Cautions on Use of Distributed Ledger/Blockchain Technology to Raise Capital

09.26.2017 Eleventh Circuit Affirms Summary Judgment or Insurer in STOLI Case

09.26.2017 Sticking Firmly to Contract Terms, Court Dismisses Premium and COI Overcharge Claims

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Communications With Auditors and Audit Committees May Change

09.26.2017 Plaintiffs Survive Standing-Based Challenge to California Senior Notice and Financial Elder Abuse Claims

09.26.2017 Dismissal of Individual Claims Cap Insurer's Winning Streak in Action Challenging FIA Product Features

09.26.2017 NAIC Big Data Working Group Update

09.26.2017 Nevada Securities Act Amendments – What's Next?

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09.26.2017 SEC Scrutinizes Multi-Manager Arrangements

09.26.2017 Pennsylvania Court Holds Fiduciary Duty Exists Only Where Consumer Cedes Decision-Making Control to the Fiduciary

09.26.2017 Summary Judgment Win for Insurer in "Stable Value" Interest Rate Setting Case

09.26.2017 Certified Financial Planner Board Proposes Fiduciary Obligations for All CFP Financial Advice

09.26.2017 New Partnership Audit Rules – Plan Ahead Before the Tax Bill Arrives

09.26.2017 SEC Investor Advocate's 2018 Objectives Target Key Issues for Life Insurers

09.26.2017 The Fiduciary Rule Status Update

09.26.2017 NAIC Cybersecurity Working Group Votes to Approve Insurance Data Security Model Law

09.26.2017 OCIE Lessons From Cybersecurity 2 Initiative

09.20.2017 New York DFS Tightens Cybersecurity Gaps 07.05.2017

New York DFS Requests Information on Use of External Consumer Data and Information Sources in Life Insurance Underwriting

06.23.2017 FINRA Moves to Protect Seniors and Other Vulnerable Persons

06.23.2017 FINRA Issues New Guidance on Social Media and Digital Communications

06.23.2017 Eighth Circuit Affirms Dismissal of RICO Claim in So-Called Shadow Insurance Suit

06.23.2017 Mutual Fund Advisers Win Again on Section 36(b) Claims

06.23.2017

SEC Seeks Public Comments on Standards of Conduct for Investment Advisors and Broker-Dealers

06.23.2017 Special Purpose National Bank Charter for FINTECH Firms

06.23.2017 FINRA Public Offering Proposal Excludes All Insurance Contracts

06.23.2017 The DOL Fiduciary Rule: Charting a Course, Avoiding Collisions & Potential Litigation

06.23.2017 SEC Guidance Seeks Enhanced Disclosures by Robo-Advisers

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Colorado Set to Regulate Cybersecurity Practices of Broker-Dealers and Investment Advisers

06.23.2017 More Fund Companies Sanctioned for Misusing Fund Assets for Distribution

06.23.2017 FINRA Proposes to Loosen Restrictions on Performance Projections

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04.10.2017 Transparency Watch: Federal District Court Mandates Automatic Disclosure of Third-Party Funding Arrangements for Class Actions

04.10.2017 Circuits Split Over Constitutionality of SEC's Administrative Law Judges

04.10.2017 SEC Staff Allows Brokers to Set Commissions for Mutual Fund "Clean Shares"

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04.10.2017 SEC Adopts T+2 Securities Settlement Cycle

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04.10.2017 Signs of an Active 2017 for Laws Protecting Vulnerable Adults from Financial Exploitation

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04.10.2017 Regulators Demand Third-Party Risk Management

01.27.2017 NY DFS Issues Circular Letter Addressing Life Insurance Unfair Claims Settlement Practices During the Contestability Period

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10.13.2016 A Truckload of Trouble for the CFPB

09.21.2016 UK's FCA Weighs in on Insurers' Use of Big Data

07.26.2016 Time to Disrupt Insurance Regulation?

07.26.2016 STOLI Policies Cancelled, Insurers Retain Premium

07.26.2016 A New Domain Name Option for the Insurance Industry

07.26.2016 Fed Takes First Steps Toward Setting Capital Requirements for Some Insurers

07.26.2016 NAIC Round-up: Selected Recent Developments at the National Association of Insurance Commissioners

07.26.2016 A Constitutional Challenge to Florida's New Unclaimed Property Act Amendments

07.26.2016 New Wave of COI Rate Increase Lawsuits Hits the Industry

07.01.2016 Brexit's Impact on the Insurance Industry

06.30.2016 FINRA to Assess Member Firms' Culture

06.07.2016 Why Banks Should Pay Attention to the Payday Rule

05.13.2016 FinCEN Unveils "Fifth Pillar" of Anti-Money Laundering Compliance

05.01.2016

A Short Telling of the Wacky History of How the SEC Came to Regulate Life Insurance Company Separate Accounts and Products

04.25.2016 Two Federal Courts Uphold Criminal Convictions for Insurance Brokers

04.25.2016 Alleged Misrepresentations to DFS Warrant SLUSA Preclusion

04.25.2016 Class Certified in Unique Fixed Indexed Annuity Case

04.13.2016 Florida Imposes Additional Unclaimed Property Requirements on Life Insurers

03.31.2016 Price Optimization Class Actions Produce First Rulings

01.27.2016 FTC's Big Data Report Provides Road Map for Insurers Using Big Data

01.25.2016 Bill to Amend Florida's Unclaimed Property Act Regarding Unclaimed Insurance Benefits Moves to Senate Floor

01.25.2016 SEC Provides Long-Awaited Guidance on Fund Distribution and Sub-Accounting Fees

01.05.2016 Florida's OIR Provides Guidance on Annuity Maturity Date Extensions

12.23.2015 AML Requirements Proposed for Investment Advisers

12.23.2015 FINRA and NASAA Proposals to Protect Vulnerable Customers

12.23.2015 Perks, Prizes, and Loopholes: Sen. Warren's Report on Annuity Sales Practices

12.23.2015 FINRA Targets Stockbroker's Impermissible Transfer of Client Account Information

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NAIC Evaluates Insurer's Use of Variable Annuity Captives, Price Optimization, and Big Data

12.15.2015 NAIC's Market Regulation Committee Adopts Broad Charge to Explore Insurers' Big Data Use

12.03.2015 Will the UK's Scrutiny of Insurers' Use of Big Data Impact US Regulators?

11.27.2015 New York Eyes New Cybersecurity Rules for Banks and Vendors

11.09.2015 FinCEN's Expanding Application of the Bank Secrecy Act and Anti-Money Laundering Regulations

10.20.2015 Hot Topics in Cyber Coverage

10.20.2015 Hot Topics in Cyber Coverage [PODCAST]

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09.16.2015 Florida Appellate Court Adopts Test to Distinguish Direct Shareholder Actions From Derivative Actions

09.03.2015 Closing Gaps? FinCEN Proposes Anti-Money Laundering Rule for Investment Advisers

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Federal Court Holds Neither Janus, Nor Statute of Limitations Shields Alleged "Pump-And-Dump" Fraudsters From Civil Liability in SEC Case

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03.25.2015 More Insider Trading Clarity for Money Managers

03.25.2015 SEC 2015 Budget Impacts Investment Management Industry

03.25.2015 Feds Dig for Disguised Fund Distribution Fees

03.25.2015 Morgan Stanley Agrees to Resolution of Multi-State Unclaimed Property Audit

03.25.2015 Neither Side Folds on FINRA CARDS Proposal

03.25.2015 At the State Level, Is a Fixed-Index Annuity a Security?

03.25.2015 FSOC Presses SEC on Money Managers' Systemic Risks

03.24.2015 Georgia Provides Guidance on Variable Annuity Sales Disclosures

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New York's Banking Regulator Proposes Tougher Anti-Money Laundering and Cybersecurity Enforcement Rules

02.11.2015 State Insurance Regulators Target Insurers' Responses to Cyber-Attacks

01.28.2015 Cyber Risk as a Regulatory Issue: A Connecticut Regulator Shares Her Insights

12.31.2014 New Year, New Disclosures

12.22.2014 FINRA Examines Execution

12.22.2014 Cybersecurity: Dig That Crazy Important Beat

12.22.2014 Private Equity Fund Adviser Settles with SEC

12.22.2014 CFTC Follows SEC's Lead on "General Solicitation"

12.22.2014 Investment Advisers Craft Fee Rebate Programs

12.22.2014 Broker-Dealer Fee Disclosure Under Microscope

12.17.2014 Minority Powerbrokers Q&A: Carlton Fields' Ann Black

11.12.2014

Maryland Insurance Administration Prohibits Use of Price Optimization to Rate Property & Casualty Insurance Policies

11.04.2014 Trick or Treat? Halloween Meeting of NAIC's Contingent Deferred Annuity Working Group

10.27.2014 Treasury Department and IRS Allow Lifetime Annuity Contracts as Investments by Target Date Funds

10.08.2014 Florida Modifies Its Annuity Suitability Rule

09.19.2014 NAIC Unclaimed Life Insurance Benefits Working Group Recommends Development of Model Law and Comment Letter to Uniform Law Commission

09.19.2014 Legislation Reforms California's Insurance Community Investment Program

09.17.2014 Iowa Issues Bulletin on Index Annuity Marketing Materials

09.16.2014 Louisiana Issues Advisory Letter Regarding Use of the Social Security Administration's Death Master File

09.08.2014 Florida Proposes Rule for Annuity and Life Insurance Surrender Disclosures

09.01.2014 Class Litigation of Lender-Placed Hazard Insurance

08.08.2014

Florida Court Rejects "Date of Death" Trigger for Escheating Life Insurance Death Benefits Under Florida's Unclaimed Property Act

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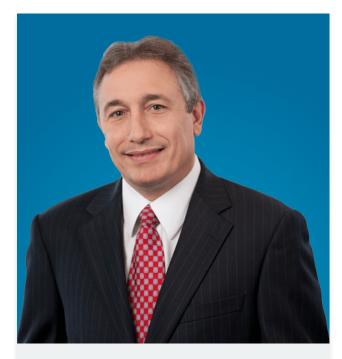
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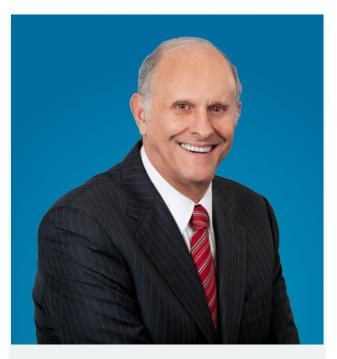
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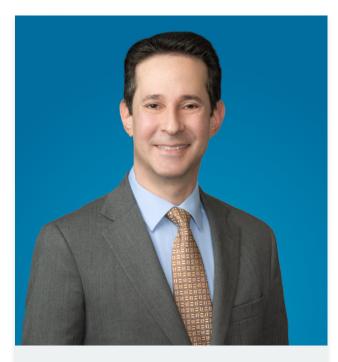
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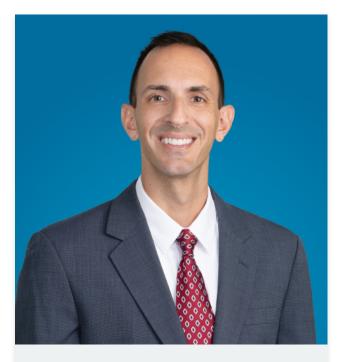
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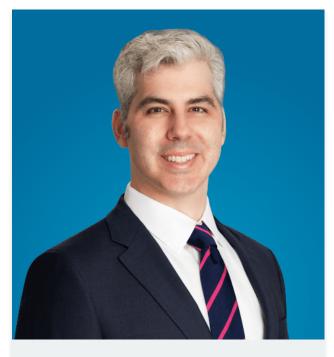
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