

COVID-19 Regulatory Actions and Developments

Clearing Agency

Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC)

Date: May 27, 2020

NEW! SEC Extends Conditional Exemptive Relief for Registered Transfer Agents and Certain Other Registrants

The SEC issued an order extending its March 20, 2020 order that (1) exempted transfer agents from various requirements related recordkeeping, reporting, and processing time; and (2) exempted various securities industry participants from the requirement to fingerprint personnel. The exemption is subject to certain conditions including the provision of notice to the Commission. The order extends the exemptive relief, which was set to expire on May 30th, to June 30, 2020.

[External Link](#)

Date: April 24, 2020

SEC Announces Cross-Divisional COVID-19 market Monitoring Group

The SEC announced the formation of a senior-level internal cross-divisional COVID-19 Market Monitoring Group to assist the Commission with respect to actions and analysis related to the effects of COVID-19 and to respond to requests for information and assistance from regulators and others.

[External Link](#)

Date: April 2, 2020

SEC Staff Statement Regarding Certain Paper Submissions

The staff of the Division of Trading and Markets issued a statement indicating that it will not recommend enforcement action with respect to failures to comply with paper format submission requirements or manual signature requirements, subject to certain conditions. The relief covers submissions for the period from March 16 through June 30, 2020.

[External Link](#)

Date: March 23, 2020

OCIE Statement on Examinations of SEC Registrants

The SEC's Office of Compliance Inspections and Examinations announced that it has moved to conducting examinations of registrants off-site through correspondence, unless it is absolutely

necessary to be on-site.

[External Link](#)

Date: March 20, 2020

Order Exempting Transfer Agents from Various Obligations and Exempting Securities Industry Participants from Fingerprinting Requirement

The SEC issued an order exempting transfer agents from various requirements related recordkeeping, reporting, and processing time. The order also exempts various securities industry participants from the requirement to fingerprint personnel. The exemption period is from March 16, 2020 through May 30, 2020.

[External Link](#)
