

## COVID-19 Regulatory Actions and Developments

### Transfer Agent

#### 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](#)

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**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](#)

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**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.

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**Date:** March 24, 2020

**Staff Statement regarding Rule 302(b) of Regulation S-T**

SEC staff issued a statement indicating that it would not recommend enforcement action with respect to a failure to comply with the requirement that signatories to certain electronically filed documents must manually sign a signature page at or prior to the submission of the electronic

filing.

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**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.

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**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.

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