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Newsletter

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Pulling Back the Curtain on Statutory Disqualification

The concept of statutory disqualification can be challenging for even the most experienced consulting firm or law firm. However, this article serves to explain the fundamental concepts relative to statutory disqualification practices.

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A Hedge Fund Bailout Highlights How Regulators Ignored Big Risks

As the coronavirus began shuttering the global economy in March, critical parts of U.S. financial markets edged toward collapse. The shock was huge and unexpected, but the vulnerabilities were well known, the legacy of risk-taking outside regulatory reach. To head off a devastating downward spiral, the Federal Reserve came to Wall Street's rescue for the second time in a dozen years. As investors sold a vast array of holdings and rushed to the comparative safety of cash, the Fed pledged to become a buyer of last resort to restore calm to critical markets.

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SEC Slams Ex-Broker for Misappropriating \$1.15M of Seniors' Funds

A former American Portfolios Financial Services rep misappropriated at least \$1.15 million from at least five customers of the Holbrook, New York-based broker-dealer, according to the Securities and Exchange Commission. The SEC said Mark L. Hopkins told clients he was investing the senior citizens' funds in a local credit union's investment program. However, that investment program never existed and Hopkins was instead depositing the clients' funds into an account he controlled at the credit union and misappropriating them.

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CFTC awards \$9M to whistleblower

The CFTC announced the award of \$9 million to a whistleblower whose "specific, credible, and timely tip" led to a successful enforcement action. The payout is one of the five largest ever awarded since the CFTC whistleblower program began in 2014, according to a press release. In the whistleblower order, the CFTC said the whistleblower provided "original information that led to the successful enforcement of a covered action."

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