Blogs April 30, 2024 8 Things to Know Right Now



Here's our latest edition of our monthly feature - a quick snapshot of recent developments:

1. There continue to be <u>developments</u> worth noting related to challenges to the SEC's climate disclosure rules, including:

- 31 Congresspeople (30 Republicans and one Democrat) introduced this joint resolution under the Congressional Review Act to try to have the rules nullified.

- Among others looking to intervene, as noted in this **<u>Bloomberg Law article</u>**, the US Chamber of Commerce made a motion to intervene in the lawsuit filed by The Sierra Club that argues that the SEC didn't go far enough in its climate disclosure rules.

- 2. As noted in <u>this blog</u>, a <u>Reuters article</u> draws on <u>these stats</u> provided by Ceres that reflect the continuing high pace and evolving nature of climate-related shareholder proposals.
- 3. In the latest challenge to noncompetes, the **FTC banned** nearly all employee noncompete agreements.
- 4. This **blog** notes the types of questions that in-house disclosure drafters are getting about the SEC's new climate disclosure rules (here's a **blog** giving the in-house perspective on first steps being taken in the wake of the new rules).

- 5. PLI held its annual "SEC Speaks" in DC and this year was more interesting than usual given all the rulemaking the SEC has done recently. Here's a **blog** about what the Corp Fin Staff said and here's a **blog** about what the Enforcement Staff said.
- 6. SCOTUS recently delivered an opinion that addressed MD&A in <u>Macquarie Infrastructure Corp. v.</u> <u>Moab Partners, L.P.</u> The 11-page opinion unanimously held that "pure omissions" are not actionable under Rule 10b–5(b). The opinion differentiates a pure omission (failure to address a topic entirely) from a "half truth" (omission of a material fact necessary to make statements made, in light of the circumstances under which they were made, not misleading).
- 7. The PCAOB **proposed rules** requiring public reporting—by PCAOB-registered public accounting firms that audit one or more SEC issuers that qualify as an accelerated filer or large accelerated filer—of prescribed information relating to these audits at an *engagement level* and of broader audit practices of the accounting firm at a *firmwide level*.
- 8. In this <u>"In-House Perspectives: Governance Practices" Guide</u>, we have compiled the various "In-House Corners" in which our in-house readers have shared tips, anecdotes, and thoughts about topics that arise in their daily practice. The topics include:
- Setting the Corporate Secretary's Budget
- Setting the Board's Budget
- Director Recruiting
- Board Presentations by Outside Parties

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