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Blockchain Legal Update Tracker USA (National/Federal)

Related Content

A guide to Practical Law's Legal Update coverage of blockchain and blockchain-related topics to help counsel track the latest developments. The tracker covers distributed ledger technology (DLT), smart contracts, digital assets, including cryptocurrency/virtual currency, regulation of digital coins and tokens, and other blockchain-related matters.

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Cryptocurrency and Virtual Currency

Legal Update	Date Published
IRS Issues New Virtual Currency Guidance and FAQs	10/17/2019
NYDFS Authorizes First Gold-Backed Virtual Currency	9/12/2019
NYDFS Authorizes Bakkt Trust Company to Provide Bitcoin Custody Services	8/21/2019
Tucker et al. v. Chase Bank USA, N.A.: Cryptocurrencies Are Not Unambiguously Cash-Like Transactions	8/15/2019
Updated FATF standards include interpretative note on virtual assets	7/4/2019
FATF Releases Recommendations for Global Cryptocurrency Regulation	6/27/2019
FSB report on work addressing cryptoasset risks	5/31/2019
IOSCO consults on regulating cryptoasset trading platforms	5/28/2019
FinCEN Issues Guidance on Virtual Currency Compliance and Advisory on Red Flags	5/16/2019
NYDFS Rejects Application of Digital Asset Exchange Bittrex, Inc. for Virtual Currency License	4/15/2019
BCBS Statement on Cryptoassets	3/13/2019
BIS Committees Report on Central Bank Digital Currencies	3/13/2019
CFTC Requests Public Comment on Ether and Ethereum Network	12/13/2018
NYDFS Issues First Bitcoin ATM License	11/2/2018
CFTC v. My Big Coin Pay: Another Federal Court Sides with CFTC on Virtual Currency Oversight	10/3/2018

NYDFS Authorizes Two Stablecoins	9/26/2018
SEC Takes First-Ever Cryptocurrency Enforcement Action Against Digital Asset Fund Manager	9/13/2018
Updated: NFA Interpretive Notice Requires Enhanced Virtual Currency Disclosures for CPOs, CTAs, FCMs, and IBs	8/9/2018
CFTC v. McDonnell, et al.: Court Reaffirms CFTC Authority Over Virtual Currency Fraud	8/2/2018
CFTC Issues Advisory on Virtual Currency ICOs	7/19/2018
FSB report on crypto-asset framework	7/16/2018
CFTC Issues Guidance on Virtual Currency Derivatives Contracts	5/24/2018
State Regulators Launch Sweep of ICOs and Cryptocurrencies	5/23/2018
Wyoming Amends Certain State Laws to Exempt Virtual Currency and Digital Tokens	3/22/2018
Federal Judge Rules Virtual Currency Is a Commodity Subject to CFTC Oversight	3/13/2018
SEC's Divisions of Enforcement and Trading and Markets Issue Statement on Cryptocurrency Exchanges	3/8/2018
CFTC Issues Virtual Currency Warning	2/22/2018
NYDFS Issues Guidance to Help Prevent Fraud and Manipulation in Virtual Currency Markets	2/15/2018
SEC and CFTC Express Concerns About Virtual Currency Regulation in Testimony Before Senate Banking Committee	2/8/2018
CFTC Announces Heightened Review of Bitcoin Futures Products	1/25/2018
NFA Issues Reporting Requirements for CPOs and CTAs that Trade Virtual Currency Products	1/11/2018
SEC and CFTC Issue Statements on Cryptocurrencies and Initial Coin Offerings	12/29/2017
CFTC Proposes Legal Interpretation of Actual Delivery Exception for Virtual Currency Regulation	12/19/2017
CFTC Announces Bitcoin Derivatives Self-Certification Process and New Bitcoin Contracts on Three Futures Exchanges	12/5/2017
LabCFTC Issues Primer on CFTC Regulation of Virtual Currencies	10/26/2017
SEC to Review Decision Denying Bitcoin ETF Listing	4/27/2017
New York Federal Court Rules Bitcoin Is Money	9/22/2016
FinCEN Issues Guidance on Virtual Currencies	3/25/2013

Regulation of Digital Coins and Tokens

Legal Update	Date Published
SEC Division of Corporation Finance Grants No-Action Relief to Blockchain Company Issuing Utility Token	8/1/2019
FINRA Asks Firms to Report Activities Involving Digital Assets	7/31/2019
SEC and FINRA Issue Joint Statement on Broker-Dealer Custody of Digital Asset Securities	7/11/2019
SEC Charges Kik Interactive Inc. with Conducting an Unregistered ICO	6/6/2019
SEC and CFTC Issue Joint Investor Alert Regarding Fraudulent Digital Asset Investment Scams	5/2/2019
SEC Publishes Framework for "Investment Contract" Analysis of Digital Assets	4/4/2019

 SEC Seeks Input on Impact of Digital Assets and Distributed Ledger Technology (DLT) on Compliance with Custody Rules for Investment Advisers 	3/20/2019
SEC Chairman Confirms SEC Staff Analysis on ICOs and Digital Assets	3/12/2019
SEC Settles First Self-Reported Unregistered ICO	2/25/2019
Court Holds SEC Has Not Proven that a Pre-ICO Cryptocurrency Is a "Security"	12/4/2018
SEC Issues Statement on Digital Asset Securities Issuance and Trading	11/20/2018
SEC Issues First-Ever Enforcement Action Against Digital Asset Trading Platform	11/14/2018
US v. Zaslavskiy: Court Finds that US Securities Laws May Apply to ICOs	9/20/2018
SEC Takes First-Ever Cryptocurrency Enforcement Action Against Digital Asset Fund Manager	9/13/2018
CFTC Issues Advisory on Virtual Currency ICOs	7/19/2018
FINRA Encourages Firms to Notify FINRA if They Engage in Activities Related to Digital Assets	7/17/2018
SEC Director, Division of Corporation Finance, Discusses ICOs and Digital Assets	6/14/2018
State Regulators Launch Sweep of ICOs and Cryptocurrencies	5/23/2018
Wyoming Amends Certain State Laws to Exempt Virtual Currency and Digital Tokens	3/22/2018
SEC Chairman Warns Legal Advisors on ICOs	1/23/2018
SEC and CFTC Issue Statements on Cryptocurrencies and Initial Coin Offerings	12/29/2017

Smart Contracts

Legal Update	Date Published
ISDA® Publishes Second Series of Legal Guidelines for Smart Derivatives Contracts	2/25/2019
ISDA® Publishes Introductory Legal Guidelines for Smart Derivatives Contracts	1/31/2019
LabCFTC Issues Primer on Smart Contracts	12/3/2018
CFTC Commissioner Quintenz Notes Potential Liability of Smart Contract Programmers	·10/29/2018
ISDA® and KWM Publish Whitepaper Proposing Framework for Constructing Smart Derivatives Contracts	10/11/2018
• ISDA® Releases Initial Digital Representation of Common Domain Model™ (CDM)	6/5/2018
Transitioning Derivatives onto the Blockchain: ISDA® Publishes Common Domain Model™ (CDM) 1.0	10/26/2017
Paper Discusses Application of Blockchain Smart Contract Technology to ISDA® Documentation	8/3/2017
Third R3 Smart Contract Summit Overview and Slide Deck	7/11/2017

Blockchain and Corporate Governance

Legal Update	Date Published
States Approve Legislation Addressing Blockchain-Related Legal Matters	6/12/2017
2017 DGCL Proposed Amendments on Blockchain Recordkeeping, Written Consents, Merger Provisions, Interested Stockholder	3/16/2017

Blockchain and Financial Transactions

Legal Update	Date Published
FSB Report on Decentralized Financial Technologies	6/6/2019
BAFT Releases Best Practices for Digital Ledger Payment Commitments	5/2/2019
HSBC and ING Execute First Live Trade Finance Transaction on Blockchain Platform	5/15/2018
Spanish Bank Issues Seminal Blockchain-Supported Corporate Loan	4/30/2018
First Blockchain Securities Lending Transaction Successfully Completed	3/29/2018
First Blockchain Structured Note Launched	3/22/2018
Blockchain ETFs Launch After Name Change	1/18/2018
Axoni and Eleven Firms Announce Successful Equity Swap Smart Contract Test	11/28/2017
CME Group Announces Launch of Bitcoin Futures	11/8/2017
Financial Institutions Successfully Test New Blockchain OTC Derivatives Negotiation Technology	6/8/2017
Firms Complete Successful Blockchain Equity Swap Smart Contract	11/3/2016
CFTC Commissioner Giancarlo Discusses Implications of Blockchain for Financial Services	4/27/2016
Successful Blockchain Credit Default Swap Smart Contract Test Completed by DTCC Working Group	4/21/2016

Blockchain and Real Estate

Legal Update	Date Published
Blockchain Is Coming to Title Insurance	11/30/2018
Vermont City Hosts Blockchain Real Estate Test Program	2/9/2018
Illinois Pilot Program Tests Blockchain in Real Estate Land Records Management	8/14/2017

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