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Legislative and Regulatory update:

The current landscape and the road ahead

**Bob Kueppers** – *Deputy CEO, Deloitte LLP* **Bill Ezzell** – *Legislative Affairs, Deloitte LLP January 8, 2010* 



#### Agenda

- Legislative Update
  - Comprehensive Financial Regulatory Reform: Profession issues
    - Liability Exposure
    - Increased Regulatory Oversight
    - Investor Protection
- The Current Regulatory Landscape
- Regulatory Update
  - SEC Agenda: increase focus on enforcement
  - PCAOB Agenda: constitutionality
- Questions and Comments

#### Legislative Update

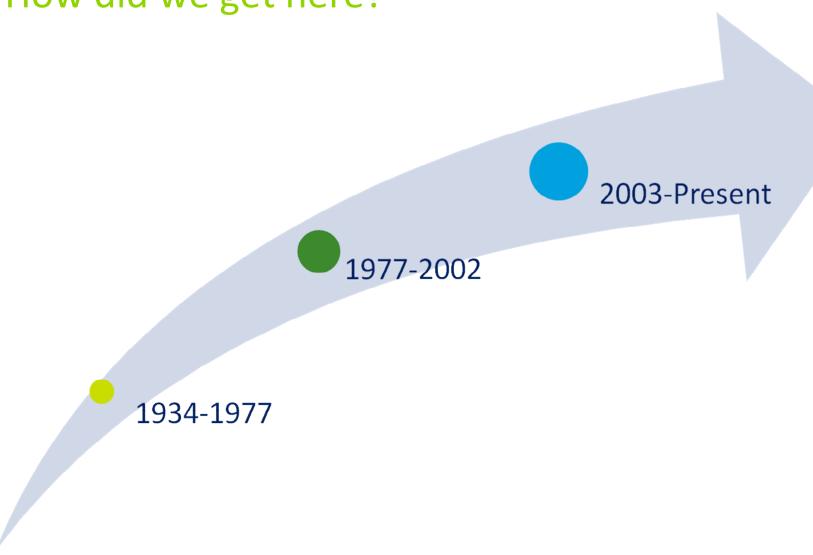
- Comprehensive Financial Regulatory Reform
  - Liability Exposure
    - Aiding and Abetting Liability
    - Lowering Pleading Standard
  - Increased Regulatory Oversight
    - Consumer Financial Protection Agency

#### Legislative Update

- Comprehensive Financial Regulatory Reform cont.
  - Investor Protection
    - Reforms to Sarbanes-Oxley Internal Control Requirements
    - Sharing of Information by the PCAOB with Foreign Auditor
      Oversight Authorities
    - Whistleblower Protections
    - Extraterritorial Jurisdiction of the Antifraud Provisions of the Federal Securities Laws

## The Current Regulatory Landscape:

How did we get here?



- SEC Agenda
  - Response to credit crisis and Madoff scandal
    - Enforcement
    - Fair value
    - Going concern
  - Corporate governance matters
  - IFRS roadmap
  - Professional judgment

- SEC Agenda: increase focus on enforcement
  - New Enforcement Director, Robert Khuzami
    - » Front and center given Madoff miss
    - » Changes at Enforcement Division what does this all mean?
      - Specialized Investigative Groups
      - Management restructuring
      - Streamlining
  - "Vigorous enforcement is a critical component of that [financial crisis] recovery effort"
  - Warning to auditors:
    - » The existence of management fraud does not provide exemption to external auditors from SEC enforcement action
    - » Failure to demonstrate professional skepticism common thread in enforcement actions

- SEC Orders against E&Y, 6 Partners December 17
  - SEC found E&Y knew or should have known about Bally Total Fitness Holdings Corporation (Bally's) fraudulent financial accounting and disclosures
  - Among partners charged 3 members of the firm's national office,
    including most senior technical partner and Vice Chairman
  - Settlement:
    - » E&Y agreed to pay \$8.5 M penalty and certain undertakings
    - » Partners agreed to sanctions ranging from censure to bars from practicing before SEC for periods 9 months to 3 years
  - Profession Impact:
    - » First case major firm National Office leader cited for actions
    - » Large settlement, but no prohibition from accepting new clients
    - » E&Y agreement to undertakings likely to impact other firms

#### PCAOB Agenda

- Chairman and board member changes
- Active enforcement program
- Global issues related to mutual recognition of audit oversight
- Aggressive standard setting agenda unveiled
- Formation of Investor Advisory Committee

- PCAOB Agenda: constitutionality
  - Supreme Court decision not about the PCAOB
  - Separation of Powers and Appointments Clause
  - Best guess outcome:
    - » PCAOB structure found to violate separation of power doctrine
    - » Trial court judge will likely enter the judgment against the PCAOB but stay any order to dissolve it
    - » Allows Congress to act to cure constitutional defect
    - » Opinion expected in May 2010 timing to make fix politically challenging due to mid-term elections
    - » Unexpected consequences

# **Questions and Comments**



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