

Securities & Investment Companies

Overview

Carlton Fields serves the securities industry's regulatory, enforcement, litigation, corporate finance, and other corporate and transactional needs. We have a strong national practice, serving the broker-dealer, investment adviser, and investment company components of the securities industry.

Our attorneys advise clients in all aspects of their securities-related businesses. We work closely with client management, compliance, technical, and administrative staff to address and resolve compliance issues in both litigation and transactional matters.

Our attorneys represent clients in investigations brought by the Securities and Exchange Commission, FINRA, the stock exchanges, securities regulators in 50 states, and other regulatory agencies.

Our attorneys are experienced with diverse, cutting-edge issues that arise from the securities business, including Regulation Best Interest, ESG, information security and resiliency, and crypto assets and emerging technologies. We excel in applying securities laws to the sale and distribution of all financial products, and counsel clients on the most complex and challenging issues facing the industry.

We serve our clients with an integrated approach that draws on the collective experience of our business, regulatory, and litigation attorneys. These attorneys, who include numerous former SEC and FINRA officials, have worked both in and for the securities industry, giving us an insider's perspective and a regulators' perspective on business practices in the industry.

In addition, our attorneys are very active in the American Bar Association, state bar associations, and various industry groups. We lecture and write extensively on securities, corporate, insurance, tax, and other matters. As a result, our advice on individual issues often contributes to the client's broader business, regulatory, and litigation goals.

Our general services to the industry include:

Securities Industry Counseling

- SEC Enforcement
- Securities Transactions and Compliance
- Mergers and Acquisitions
- SEC Reporting
- Public and Private Offerings
- Private Equity and Venture Capital
- FINRA Enforcement
- Broker-Dealer Registration, Regulation, and Compliance
- Broker-Dealer Arbitrations and Appeals

We also handle the latest regulatory challenges:

- Regulation Best Interest/Fiduciary Standard
- Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) Issues
- Information Security and Resiliency
- Crypto Assets and Emerging Technologies

Insights

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SEC and CFTC Amend Form PF ... Again: Private Fund Advisers Should "Kick the Tires" Before Next Race to File

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Courts May Call "Lane Violation" on Recent SEC Actions

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Proxy Advisers Win by a Nose, Eclipse Conflict Disclosure Requirement

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SEC Seriously Limits Dealer/Trader Distinction: Betting Window Open Re Federal Court Veto

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Sen. Wyden Sets Sights on Private Placement Life Insurance

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DOL Releases New Fiduciary Rule, Broadens Definition of Investment Advice Under ERISA

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SEC Seeks to Extend Insider Trading Law to 'Shadow Trading' in SEC v. Panuwat *Daily Journal*

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Best Practices for Officers, Directors, and Advisers Navigating Fiduciary Challenges Amid Economic Uncertainty

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Juggling Act: SEC Fines Three Employers for Potentially Discouraging Whistleblowers

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Market Pushes Back on SEC Short Sale Reporting Rule

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Mass. High Court Plays Wild Card: Upholds Broad Fiduciary Duty for Broker-Dealers

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Against All Odds Alpine Wins Important Injunction Against FINRA

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SEC Deals New Cybersecurity Disclosure Requirements to Public Companies

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Supreme Court Plays Its Cards on Constitutionality of SEC In-House Court Actions

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NAFA Enters the Game, Files Amicus Brief in SEC v. Cutter

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Fifth Circuit Breaks From No-Action Pack: Becomes Better Bet for Letter Recipients?

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The Hits Keep Coming for FINRA, Closing Out a Brutal Summer

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Catching More Flies With Honey: Recent DOJ Policy Changes to Coax Cooperation From Corporate Defendants

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AML Whistleblowers Now Have More Appetizing Options

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SEC Brings Broker-Dealer Electronic Recordkeeping Rules Out of Deep Freeze

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SEC Revamps Fund Shareholder Reporting and Fee/Expense Advertising Rules

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Increased Visibility Into Fund Proxy Voting: SEC Adopts Controversial Requirements

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SEC and CFTC Fines for Texting Augur Billions More from DOJ

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A Flurry of Algorithmic Activity at the NAIC 2022 Fall National Meeting

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SEC Casts Wider Investment Adviser Net: May Ensnare Index and Other Providers

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SEC Files Groundbreaking Reg BI Complaint

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SEC Proposes Fund ESG Disclosure Channels: Different ESG Strategies Must Row in Their Lanes

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Private Equity Investments in Insurance Companies: Regulators Approach From All Directions

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Takeaways for Broker-Dealers After SEC's Reg BI Action

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A Hailstorm for Private Fund Advisers? SEC Clouds the Horizon

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When Congress Freezes Up, the NAIC's Privacy Protections Working Group Lights a Fire

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SEC Publishes Fund Compliance Shortfalls

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Big Changes Ahead for Private Funds? SEC Chair's Transparent Intent

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Possible SEC Proxy/Whistleblower Rule U-Turns? Could Reverse Trump-Era Actions

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Stopping GameStop Games: Regulators Eye Payment for Order Flow

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Regulation Best Interest and Form CRS: Examinations and Enforcement Heat Up

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SEC Takes ESG Disclosure Plunge: An Ocean of Issues Swirls

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Investor Advocate Rebukes SEC, Calls for Rule Reversals and Legislation

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Spring Is Hot for State Privacy Legislation

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Converting Mutual Funds to ETFs: A Fertile Field?

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A Rocky Road Ahead for Insurers Using Consumer Data and Models

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Cast Into the Deep: Questions for Charting New Privacy Waters

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A Future Without SEC Tolling Agreements? Some Say "Not So Fast"

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States Spring Into Action With Best Interest Rules for Annuities

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Minimum Standard Nonforfeiture Rate - Green Light, Red Light

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California Privacy Rights Act: Compliance Objectives for 2021

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A New Dawning for Electronic Insurance and Investment Product Transactions and Document Delivery?

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Great-West Wins 36(b) Fee Case

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NAIC Task Force Gives Insurers a Holiday Rebating Gift

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A New Beginning for Fund Derivative Regulation

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Topsy-Turvy World of Accelerated Underwriting and Artificial Intelligence

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IRS Continues Hot Streak: Issues Additional Favorable Fee-Based Annuity Rulings

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ASB Airs Summer Rerun: Seeks Round 2 of ASOP 2 Comments

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OCIE Turns Up Heat on Private Fund Adviser Compliance

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No Summer Break for the Rebating Drafting Group

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Securities Regulators' Rx for COVID-19

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Peering Into Regulators' Views on Artificial Intelligence

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A Spring Into Chaos: Massachusetts Adopts Fiduciary Rule

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OCIE Continues Relentless Cybersecurity Focus

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Sprouting: Modernized Variable Product Disclosures: SEC Approves Summary Prospectuses

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NAIC Life Insurance and Annuities (A) Committee Ends 2019 With a Big Bang

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OCIE Risk Alert Highlights Compliance Program Catch-22

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Round and Round – Will 2020 Bring the End to Inconsistent Anti-Rebating Prohibitions?

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SEC Pressures Advisers on Undisclosed Conflicts

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Second Circuit Opens Door to Lawsuits Based on Contract Violating 1940 Act

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Not So Fast: Court Upholds Denial of Request for Accelerated Life Insurance Payment

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The Risk and Reward of Life Insurance

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Third Circuit Application of Certified Questions Confirms STOLI Policies Void in New Jersey

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Supreme Court Casts a Wide Net with Rule 10b-5

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Illinois Supreme Court Nails Down Status in Big Market: Indexed Annuities Are Not Securities

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Life Insurers Sinking in Quicksand as Regulators Scrutinize Non-Traditional Consumer Data Sources

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NAIC Illustration Regulation Races Index Product Innovation

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SEC Open to Modern Communications by Advisers

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FINRA Trumpets Variable Annuity Sales Problems While SEC Falls Silent

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Circuit Court Rules Insurance Agents Are Not "Employees" Under ERISA

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Caps Off to You: DOL Proposes Raising Salary Cap

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Challenging New York's "Best Interest" Standard: A Comparison to COCUS

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Various NAIC Groups Discuss a Cornucopia of Life and Annuity Topics

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As Students Return to School, Regulators Continue Their Study of the NAIC's Suitability in Annuity Transaction Model Regulation

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FINRA Targets Variable Annuity Practices

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XBRL Amendments Have Limited Impact on Insurance Products

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Protecting At-Risk Seniors from Financial Exploitation

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SEC Proposes New Rule Impacting ETFs

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SEC: Ether and Bitcoin Are Not Securities

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Dodd-Frank Rollback Benefits Insurers

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NAIC Summer National Meeting Spotlights Innovation and Insurtech

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SEC 'Investor Experience Initiative' Expressly Includes Variable Insurance Products

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To Preempt or Not to Preempt - Courts Issue Competing SLUSA Rulings

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SEC Warns About Third-Party Destruction of Broker-Dealer Records

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Supreme Court Set to Rule on Constitutionality of SEC's ALJs

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New York Pushes Mutual Fund Active Share Disclosure

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Expect Slower SEC Processing of Investment Company Filings

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South Carolina First State to Adopt NAIC Insurance Data Security Model Law

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Insurers Keep Providing Corporate Governance Disclosures Without Complaint—Yet

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SEC Targets Variable Insurance Products

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Preparing for New York Regulation 210's Effective Date

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Did Santa Give the Insurance Industry a Lump of Coal or a Diamond in the Rough?

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Regulators Continue to Scrutinize Initial Coin Offerings

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SEC Exam Staff: "Surprise, We're Back"

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Treasury Department Urges SEC to Act on Life Company Products

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Communications With Auditors and Audit Committees May Change

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SEC Stays Approval of Quadruple-Leveraged ETF

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SEC Scrutinizes Multi-Manager Arrangements

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Certified Financial Planner Board Proposes Fiduciary Obligations for All CFP Financial Advice

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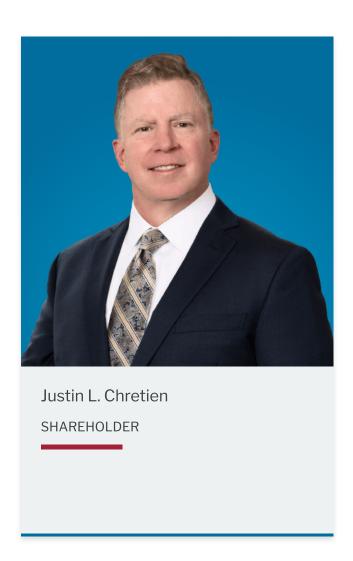
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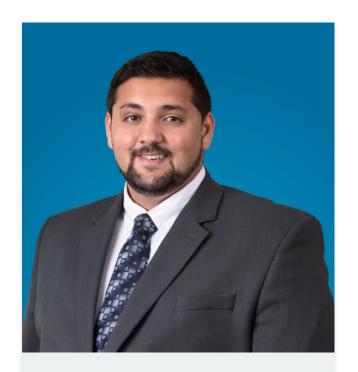
CFTC Expands Regulation of Investment Companies

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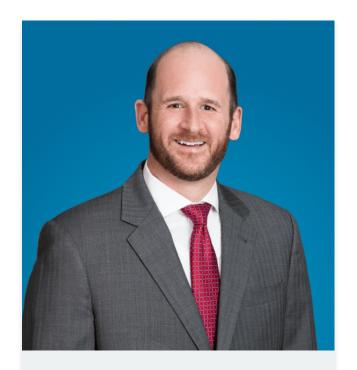
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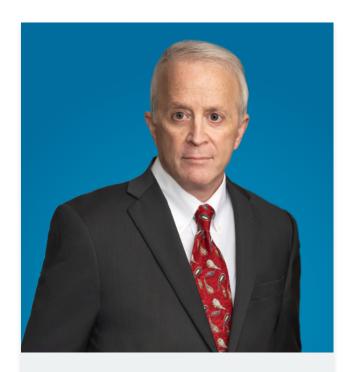
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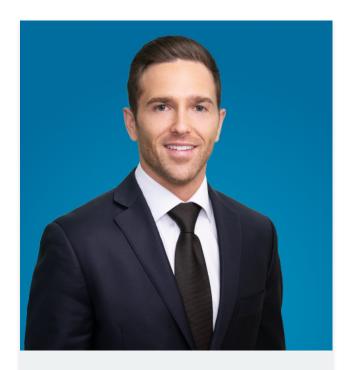
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