# **SCBBRIEF**

#### VOLUME 2, ISSUE 8 | AUGUST 2021



The series' videos can be found on SCB's website using this link <u>https://bit.ly/3BaCxlU</u>.

Learn tips to Improve and build your financial resilience.

# **REGULATORY UPDATES**

#### **Recently Implemented**

Securities Industry (Business Capital) Rules, 2021 Gazetted 23 June 2021 https://bit.ly/3s41pbt

#### **Consultation Documents**

SIA (Amendment) Regulations, 2021 Draft SIA (Financial Resources) Regulatory Rules, 2021 Draft First Schedule Form FRR, 2021 Consultation period ended 7 May 2021 https://bit.ly/3wSesPf

Securities Industry (Amendment) Bill, 2021 https://bit.ly/3hgnekv



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MEDIA RELEASES /ALERTS AND NOTICES INDUSTRY BRIEFINGS/EVENTS AND MEETINGS AROUND THE COMMISSION



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## MEDIA RELEASES/ALERTS AND NOTICES

Public Notice Public Notice No 12: FX Primary Issued: 22 July 2021 https://bit.ly/3A4YpPu

Public Notice Public Notice No 11: ASUE MAXXED Issued: 26 August 2021 https://bit.ly/2XdGOg2

# INDUSTRY BRIEFINGS/EVENTS AND MEETINGS

**12, 26 August 2021.\*** FIU CaseKonnect Training for MRLO/DRO. Virtual.

24 August 2021.\* FIU AML/CFT Training. Virtual.

**16, 30 September 2021.**\* FIU CaseKonnect Training for MRLO/DRO. Virtual. To register email: training@fiubahamas.bs.

**23 September 2021.**\* FIU AML/CFT Training. Virtual. To register email: training@fiubahamas.bs.

**4-10 October.** OICU-IOSCO World Investor Week 2021 <u>https://www.worldinvestorweek.org/</u>

11-17 October. Securities Commission of The Bahamas celebrates World Investor Week 2021

**5, 26 October 2021.**\* FIU AML/CFT Training. Virtual. To register email: training@fiubahamas.bs.

**14, 25 October 2021.**\* FIU CaseKonnect Training for MRLO/DRO. Virtual. To register email: training@fiubahamas.bs.

Dates subject to change.\*

# **AROUND THE COMMISSION**

The Commission's reception desk is open between the hours of 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. for telephone calls and deliveries. To maintain physical distancing, there is a designated area for package drop-off. Commission staff may be contacted via their work telephone extensions and email. If you do not have direct contact details for a staff member, please call 397-4100 or send an email to info@scb.gov.bs so that it may be directed to the right person/team. Application fees and other payments should be made to the Commission via wire transfer (instructions previously sent).

# DESK-BASED THEMATIC REVIEWS

The Commission introduced industry-wide, deskbased thematic review surveys in 2020 as an element of its risk-based supervision programme to obtain business operations information from all SIA/IFA/FSCPA registrants and licensees. The first two surveys, competed in July 2020, focused on anti-money laundering and countering the financing of terrorism procedures and practices (AML/CFT/PF), and business continuity plans. The results informed the Commission's 2021 Priorities.

The thematic review survey on Client Suitability Procedures, Product Offerings, and Marketing was issued on 8 July 2021 with a deadline for receipt of responses by 23 August 2021.

The thematic review survey on Common Reporting Standard (CRS) Compliance was issued on 13 July 2021 with a response deadline of 30 August 2021.

The Commission will publish the results of the surveys upon completion of its analysis.

#### 2021 PRIORITIES

In an effort to promote transparency and highlight the top identified areas of risk in the securities sector, the Commission has published the examinations, supervisory and enforcement priorities for 2021. <u>https://bit.ly/3xj5BGj</u>

#### **FCSP AUTHORISED AGENTS**

The Securities Commission of The Bahamas, as the Inspector of Financial and Corporate Services, has approved the accounting firms/accountants to act as its agents in conducting the annual routine onsite examination for 2021. For a complete list visit <u>https://bit.ly/3wuJTiq</u>

#### **FILINGS WATCH**

Licensees and registrants under the Securities Industry Act, 2011 (SIA), the Investment Funds Act, 2019 (IFA) and the Financial and Corporate Service Providers Act, 2020 (FCSPA) should refer to legislation and issued rules in order to remain compliant with their ongoing reporting obligations.

## INTERNATIONAL MEMBERSHIPS AND MEETINGS

**3 August 2021:** IOSCO C3. Finalization of the Artificial Intelligence/Machine Learning (AI/ML) committee report to IOSCO's Board. The committee intends to provide a summary of "best practices" to assist regulators with prescribing authorisation, surveillance (on and off-site) and enforcement criteria for registrants that provide AI/ML service. SCB representative provided an overview of the Commission's newly adopted Business Capital Rules.

**7 August 2021:** IOSCO C3 Operational Resilience (ORG) sub-committee meeting. Updating of IOSCO's previously issued guidance and guidelines with respect to regulators and registrant's business continuity plans (BCP). This initiative was pursued in light of COVID-19, as regulators were cognizant that IOSCO's existing BCP guidelines did not robustly address the bespoke challenges of the pandemic's disruptions. The new guidance and guidelines will attempt to address the identified deficiencies.

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#### **SEPTEMBER 2021**

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#### **CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

2	Emancipation Day. Public Holiday
12	FIU CaseKonnect Training for MRLO/DRO. Virtual
12	Eleuthera Business Outlook
24	FIU AML/CFT Seminar. Virtual
26	FIU CaseKonnect Training for MRLO/DRO. Virtual
16	Election Day
16	FIU CaseKonnect Training for MRLO/DRO. Virtual
23	FIU AML/CFT Seminar. Virtual
30	FIU CaseKonnect Training for MRLO/DRO, Virtual

#### **RECOMMENDED READING**

*Cointelegraph*: "Who takes gold in the crypto and blockchain Olympics? The crypto and blockchain Olympics are here" – Cointelegraph hands out medals in its unique take on the global showpiece. https://bit.ly/3BXItPi

Harvard Business Review: "Lessons on Resilience for Small and Midsize Businesses"

by Tera Allas, Michael Birshan, Anthony Impey, Charlie Mayfield, Jan Mischke, and Jonathan Woetzel https://bit.ly/3tug050

Gateway The Bahamas Financial Review (Fall 2021): "DARE Legislation Opens the Door for New Industry" by Christina R. Rolle https://bit.ly/3nJl0g2

# Blockchain Bubble or Revolution: The Present and Future of Blockchain and Cryptocurrencies

by Neel Mehta and Aditya Agashe

"There are few technologies as divisive as blockchain. Expert opinions range from it being "a scam" to "most important invention since the internet." Authored by three product managers from Google, Microsoft, and Facebook, this book cuts through the hype and offers a balanced, accurate assessment and analysis of blockchain technology."

#### FREQUENTLY USED ABBREVIATIONS

AEOI: Automatic Exchange of Information AI: Arificial Intelligence AML: Anti-Money Laundering **BCP: Business Continuity Plan** CFT: Countering the Financing of Terrorism DARE: Digital Assets and Regulated Exchanges **DRO: Designated Reporting Officer** FATCA: Foreign Account Tax Compliant Act FATF: Financial Action Task Force FCSP(A): Financial and Corporate Service Providers (Act) FIU: Financial Intelligence Unit IFA: Investment Funds Act **IOEAMA:** International Obligations (Economic and Ancillary Measures) Act IOSCO: International Organization of Securities Commissions ML: Machine Learning MLRO: Money Laudering Reporting Officer PF: Proliferation Financing of Weapon of Mass Destruction SIA: Securities Industry Act UNSCR: United Nations Security Council Resolution

#### FEEDBACK

For feedback, questions or to provide information email: oed@scb.gov.bs, reference SCB Brief V2, 18.

Publication date: 22 September 2021





World Investor Week is a week-long global campaign that raises awareness of the importance of investor education and protection. IOSCO securities regulators and other IOSCO members on six continents conduct local/national campaigns in their own jurisdictions to increase awareness in these two critical areas. <u>https://bit.ly/3EqYdwr</u>

For information on the Securities Commission of The Bahamas' participation in World Investor Week visit <u>www.scb.gov.bs</u>.