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OPTIMA NEWSLETTER

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Upcoming Regulatory Deadlines

- AUGUST 14, 2026 | QUARTERLY FORM 13F
- AUGUST 31, 2026 | FORM N-PX

Regulatory Updates

SEC Proposes New E-Delivery Approach to Make Information More Readily Accessible and Useful for Investors

SOURCE | SEC | READ MORE

Currently, many required regulatory disclosures and reports under the federal securities laws are delivered in paper format, unless the person with a right to receive these disclosures and reports affirmatively elects otherwise. On July 16, 2026, the SEC proposed Regulation E-Delivery, a new rule that would expand the ability of issuers, broker-dealers, investment advisers, and others to use electronic delivery to satisfy information delivery requirements under the federal securities laws ("Reg E-Delivery"). Reg E-Delivery, if adopted, would be the SEC's primary rule addressing e-delivery and would replace the SEC's longstanding guidance-based approach to electronic delivery. It would generally permit e-delivery as the default method of delivery to investors, clients, and others subject to certain conditions. Reg E-Delivery would make information more readily accessible and useful for investors while preserving the ability to receive information in paper format upon request.

SEC Small Business Advisory Committee to Explore Modernizing Market Access

SOURCE | SEC | READ MORE

On July 8, 2026, the SEC Small Business Capital Formation Advisory Committee announced that it will hold a meeting on Tuesday, July 21, 2026, to explore ways to modernize public market access and encourage IPOs and small public company capital formation. Building upon ideas generated during the prior committee meeting, members will continue exploring ways to encourage more companies to go and stay public. The Committee will consider ways to modernize the IPO process and potential regulatory reforms, including certain recently proposed SEC rulemakings aimed at reducing regulatory friction and facilitating capital formation in the public securities markets.

Regulatory Updates

SEC Creates Retail Fraud Working Group

SOURCE | SEC | READ MORE

On July 7, 2026, the SEC's Division of Enforcement formed a "Retail Fraud Working Group" to prioritize investigations into fraud targeting retail investors, including securities offering fraud, pump-and-dump schemes, market manipulation, and breaches of duties to customers by investment advisers and broker dealers.. The initiative centralizes resources, data analytics and cross agency coordination and appointed leadership for the unit. Firms with retail distribution or significant retail reach should tighten advertising, supervision and complaint triage controls and be prepared for heightened scrutiny. The Retail Fraud Working Group will be led by the Division of Enforcement's Kate Zoladz, Deputy Director, West, and Kim Frederick, Assistant Director, Asset Management Unit.

SEC Chair Atkins' Remarks at the Society for Corporate Governance Conference

SOURCE | SEC | READ MORE

On July 9, 2026, SEC Chairman Paul S. Atkins delivered remarks at the Society for Corporate Governance Conference, emphasizing the SEC's commitment to disclosure-based regulation, capital formation, and free markets. Chairman Atkins discussed the Commission's efforts to modernize the regulatory framework, reduce unnecessary burdens on public companies, and ensure that disclosure requirements remain focused on providing investors with material information needed to make informed investment decisions.

CFTC to Stay Self-Certified Contract on 24/7 Trading for Crude Oil Futures

SOURCE | CFTC | READ MORE

On July 9, 2026, the CFTC announced that it will exercise its authority to stay the listing of a contract that would have allowed the Chicago Mercantile Exchange (CME) to initiate 24/7 trading on crude oil futures. According to the CFTC, the stay is intended to allow the CFTC to complete its ongoing review of whether 24/7 trading of crude oil futures is consistent with the Commodity Exchange Act and CFTC regulations.

Regulatory Updates

FCA Consultation CP26/28: The UK AIFM Regime

SOURCE | FCA | READ MORE

The FCA has published Consultation Paper CP26/28 proposing significant reforms to the UK Alternative Investment Fund Managers regime, alongside HM Treasury's draft Alternative Investment Fund Managers Regulations 2026. The proposals seek to simplify the current framework, reduce administrative burdens and introduce a more proportionate regime based on firms' net asset value, with suggested thresholds of £750 million for medium AIFMs and £5 billion for large AIFMs. Key changes include replacing the existing AIFM sourcebook with a new Alternative Investment Funds sourcebook, removing the registration regime for most sub-threshold managers, simplifying valuation, leverage, delegation and regulatory reporting requirements, and potentially removing the AIFMD business restriction. The FCA is also considering wider reforms to prudential requirements, depositaries and prime broker arrangements. Responses to the main consultation and prudential discussion chapter are due by October 14, 2026, while responses to the remaining discussion chapters are due by September 18, 2026.

FCA Publishes Consumer Duty Findings on Products and Services

SOURCE | FCA | READ MORE

The FCA has published findings from a qualitative survey of 38 firms examining compliance with the Consumer Duty's products and services outcome. The review covered product design and target markets, testing and monitoring throughout the product lifecycle, distribution arrangements and the treatment of customers in vulnerable circumstances. The FCA identified good practices, including firms using customer research to understand prospective customers' needs, characteristics and likely behavior, but also found that some firms used overly generic target-market assessments that did not adequately reflect a product's risk profile. The findings do not introduce new requirements but are intended to help firms assess and improve their existing arrangements. Firms subject to the PROD product-governance rules remain outside PRIN 2A.3 for relevant products, although the FCA encourages them to consider whether the examples could strengthen their own practices. Firms should also consider the FCA's separate consultation on the scope and proportionality of the Consumer Duty before making significant process changes.

Regulatory Updates

FCA Extends Relief for UK–EU Derivatives Trading Obligation Conflicts

SOURCE | FCA | READ MORE

The FCA has confirmed that its direction addressing conflicts between the UK and EU derivatives trading obligations will remain in effect at least until December 31, 2026. Under the direction, firms subject to the UK derivatives trading obligation may execute relevant trades on EU trading venues when dealing with or on behalf of EU clients that are subject to the EU obligation, provided specified conditions are met. These include taking reasonable steps to confirm that the client does not have arrangements to trade on a venue recognized as equivalent by both the UK and EU. The relief is intended to reduce market disruption caused by the absence of full mutual equivalence between the two regimes. The FCA's latest explanatory statement, published on July 9, 2026, concluded that the direction remains necessary, although separate EU measures have suspended the EU trading obligation for certain UK counterparties listed in EU Regulation 2026/1288.

FCA Publishes 2025/26 Enforcement Data

SOURCE | FCA | READ MORE

The FCA has published its enforcement data for the year ended March 31, 2026, reporting that more than 75% of its enforcement work focused on fighting financial crime. During the period, the FCA issued 30 Final Notices, secured 17 criminal convictions, brought criminal charges against 10 individuals and imposed fines exceeding £129 million. It also delivered £82.1 million in payments to consumers and investors, cancelled the authorization of 1,264 firms and achieved 137 outcomes using its intervention powers. As at March 31, 2026, the FCA had 127 open operations, including 96 relating to financial crime across fraud, systems and controls, and markets. The data also shows continued use of own-initiative powers, with own-initiative requirements remaining the regulator's most frequently used intervention tool.

FCA Outlines Consumer Duty Enforcement Approach

SOURCE | FCA | READ MORE

The second edition of the FCA's *Enforcement Watch* explains how the regulator is supervising and enforcing the Consumer Duty, which has applied to open products and services since July 2023 and to closed products since July 2024. The FCA currently has 11 investigations examining potential Consumer Duty breaches, including several focused on whether firms delivered fair value under PRIN 2A and the PROD rules. The publication also highlights the distinction between assertive supervision and formal enforcement, noting that the FCA intervened 382 times in the last financial year. Examples include requiring a fund manager to accept restrictions on new business and fees after failing to demonstrate fair value or effective monitoring of consumer outcomes. The FCA states that it will work pragmatically with firms that address concerns, but will pursue enforcement where misconduct is serious, proportionate action is required or wider deterrence can be achieved.

Regulatory Updates

FCA Proposes New FRAME Fund Reporting Regime

SOURCE | FCA | READ MORE

The FCA has proposed a new Fund Reporting for Asset Management Entities framework designed around simplicity, proportionality and international alignment. FRAME would apply to UK AIFMs, UCITS managers, RVECA and SEF managers, overseas managers using the National Private Placement Regime and operators of recognized overseas schemes. Funds below £500 million NAV would complete essential reporting, while larger funds would face additional enhanced requirements. The FCA has also published draft reporting templates and a voluntary online test form. The consultation closes on September 22, 2026.

UK Regulators Begin Oversight of Critical Technology Providers

SOURCE | FCA | READ MORE

The FCA, PRA and Bank of England will jointly oversee four designated critical third parties from July 13, 2026: Amazon Web Services, Google Cloud, Microsoft and Oracle. The regime focuses on the resilience of services whose disruption could affect multiple firms or threaten UK financial stability. No immediate action is required, but regulated firms remain responsible for managing their own outsourcing, operational-resilience and contingency arrangements.

European Commission Revises EU EMIR Clearing Thresholds

SOURCE | EUROPEAN COMMISSION | READ MORE

The European Commission has adopted revised clearing thresholds under EU EMIR, introducing separate calculations for aggregate OTC derivative positions and uncleared positions. Aggregate thresholds will remain €1 billion for credit derivatives and €3 billion for interest-rate derivatives, while new uncleared thresholds will apply across credit, equity, interest-rate, foreign-exchange, commodity and emission allowance derivatives. The changes are intended to ensure that counterparties with significantly clear portfolios remain within scope where appropriate. The Delegated Regulation will apply after publication in the EU Official Journal and entry into force.

Regulatory Updates

Hong Kong SFC – Circular to Intermediaries – Over-the-counter Derivatives Regulatory Regime – Industry Webinar

SOURCE | SFC | READ MORE

On July 13, 2026, SFC issued a circular announcing an industry webinar on August 14, 2026, regarding the upcoming over-the-counter derivatives (OTCD) licensing regime, to be conducted via Zoom. The webinar aims to provide an overview of the new and expanded regulated activities under the regime, a highlight of the planned legislative amendments, a summary of the transitional arrangements for licensing and the Securities and Futures (Financial Resources) Rules, other major impacts, and the next steps. Intermediaries and their affiliated corporations currently engaging or planning to engage in OTCD activities are invited to nominate relevant management, supervisory or compliance staff to attend, with one Continuous Professional Training (CPT) hour offered for full attendance. Each firm should submit only one enrolment form for all participating staff on or before July 27, 2026, with places allocated on a first-come, first-served basis by nominee order, and successful applicants notified by email at least two days before the webinar.

Singapore MAS – MAS Proposes Regulatory Changes to Facilitate Faster Approvals of New Fund Types

SOURCE | MAS | READ MORE

On July 9, 2026, MAS published a consultation paper seeking feedback on proposed amendments to the Code on Collective Investment Schemes (CIS Code) to enable a wider range of new fund product types to be authorized for retail offer through a more streamlined process. The proposed amendments aim to allow adjustment of existing investment requirements and accommodate a wider range of innovative fund types, introducing a new Alternative Funds Appendix with fund-specific requirements and enhanced disclosures to safeguard retail investors' interests. Core requirements will continue to apply to these funds and their fund managers, including asset safeguarding and liquidity standards, while fund managers and distributors should continue to focus on fair dealing outcomes in the design and distribution of fund products to retail investors. For most proposals of new fund types, MAS aims to take about three months to determine the necessary guardrails, after which funds of the same type will take three weeks to be authorized if they fulfil the same requirements. This proposal builds on MAS' streamlining of the Complex Products framework and enhancements to Product Highlights Sheets announced in May 2026. Comments may be submitted via FormSG by 10 August 2026.

Regulatory Updates

UAE DFSA: DFSA Consults on Significant Changes to DIFC Funds Framework

SOURCE | DFSA | READ MORE

On July 7, 2026, the DFSA published Consultation Paper No. 173, proposing the most significant review of the DIFC collective investment funds regime since 2010. The proposals seek to make the framework more flexible and risk-based while maintaining investor protection. They cover specialist private fund classifications, investment manager permissions, master-feeder and other fund structures, the external fund manager regime, employee investment, annual reporting and related amendments to the Collective Investment Law and Rulebook. The paper also invites early views on tokenization and a possible long-term investment fund regime. DIFC fund managers, administrators, custodians, advisers and prospective applicants should assess the impact on existing or planned structures and consider responding by September 7, 2026.

UAE DFSA: DFSA Consults on Token Definitions, Credit Ratings and Prudential Reporting

SOURCE | DFSA | READ MORE

On July 9, 2026, the DFSA published Consultation Paper No. 174. The paper proposes amendments to certain “Crypto Token” and “Investment Token” definitions, targeted changes to the Credit Rating Agency regime and updates to prudential regulatory reporting. The proposals would narrow the Fiat Crypto Token definition to tokens backed exclusively by the relevant fiat currency or same-currency financial assets, refine the “Privacy Token” and “Privacy Device” definitions, and clarify the treatment of hybrid on-chain and off-chain Investment Tokens, including tokenized sukuk. The DFSA also proposes more proportionate conflict and disclosure rules for Credit Rating Agencies and updated PIB reporting requirements. Affected firms should review the draft amendments across GEN, COB, PIB, GLO, CIR and AMI and consider responding by August 24, 2026.

UAE DFSA: DFSA Publishes Ninth Audit Monitoring Report

SOURCE | DFSA | READ MORE

On July 9, 2026, the DFSA published its ninth Audit Monitoring Report, covering inspections conducted between January 1, 2024 and December 31, 2025. The DFSA completed 26 inspections across 93 engagement files and highlighted recurring deficiencies in support for audit opinions, investment valuation, related parties, revenue recognition and understanding of the audited entity. The report also identifies systems of quality management, artificial intelligence in audit and revenue recognition as key supervisory focus areas for 2026. Audit firms and regulated entities should consider these themes in audit planning, oversight and financial reporting controls.

Regulatory Updates

UAE ADGM: Registration Authority Strengthens Transparency and AML Controls

SOURCE | ADGM | READ MORE

On July 9, 2026, the ADGM Registration Authority published amendments to its commercial legislation to strengthen transparency and the effectiveness of the AML and counter-terrorist financing framework. The changes require nominee status to be identified on the public register, give the Registrar express powers to request beneficial ownership information for trusts connected to ADGM, restrict cash transactions above prescribed thresholds for certain legal, accounting, company service and real estate businesses, and extend beneficial ownership requirements to registered branches in relation to their foreign parent entities. The amendments took effect on publication. Affected entities should review corporate records, beneficial ownership processes, nominee disclosures and cash-handling controls.

UAE ADGM FSRA: FSRA Publishes 2025 Annual Report

SOURCE | ADGM | READ MORE

On July 13, 2026, the FSRA published its 2025 Annual Report, highlighting continued market growth alongside enhanced risk-based supervision. During 2025, the FSRA granted 94 Financial Services Permissions, completed 235 risk assessments, made 37 Rulebook amendments and issued 203 financial crime and cyber notices. It also reported 37 financial penalties totaling USD 9.24 million and the recognition of one new clearing house. The report emphasizes sustainable growth, market integrity, financial crime prevention, regulatory technology and supervisory technology. ADGM firms should use the report to benchmark their governance, compliance monitoring and risk frameworks against the regulator's stated supervisory direction.

UAE ADGM FSRA: FSRA Reminds Firms of AML/TFS and goAML Obligations

SOURCE | ADGM FSRA | READ MORE

On July 14, 2026, the FSRA issued FCCP Notice No. 117 of 2026, reminding firms of key anti-money laundering and targeted financial sanctions obligations, including registration and reporting through the goAML portal. Relevant Persons should use the notice to confirm that their goAML registration and user access remain current, that suspicious activity and transaction reporting procedures are effective, and that escalation and submission responsibilities are clearly allocated. Firms should also confirm that appropriate backup access and business continuity arrangements exist during staff absences or changes in the MLRO function.

Enforcement Actions

SEC Obtains Final Consent Judgment as to Michael J. Forster in Connection with Alleged Pump-and-Dump Scheme

SOURCE | SEC | READ MORE

On July 13, 2026, the SEC entered a final consent judgment against Michael J. Forster, resolving a 2012 pump and dump matter and ordering disgorgement of $144,320 plus prejudgment interest. The decision underscores the SEC's continued enforcement focus on manipulative trading and promotional schemes in microcap markets. Advisers and funds active in penny/microcap securities should review trade surveillance thresholds, personal trading pre clearance and policies prohibiting promotional activity.

SEC Settles Litigation with Silicon Valley Start-Up and Former CEO Charged with Defrauding Investors

SOURCE | SEC | READ MORE

On July 10, 2026, the SEC filed consents and proposed final judgments as to Silicon Valley start-up YouPlus, Inc. and its former chief executive officer, Shaukat Shamim, in the SEC's civil enforcement action against them. According to the SEC's complaint, Shamim repeatedly misrepresented YouPlus's financial condition to investors between 2018 and 2019 by falsely claiming the company generated millions of dollars in annual revenue, had more than 100 customers – including Fortune 500 companies – and concealed that the company had earned less than $500,000 and secured only four paying customers since its inception.

SEC Files Proposed Final Judgments Against Former Investor Relations Executive and Two Friends Charged with Insider Trading

SOURCE | SEC | READ MORE

On July 8, 2026, the SEC filed proposed final consent judgments as to defendants Robert Alan Yedid, Andrew Kaufman, and Mark Jacobs, whom the SEC previously charged with insider trading that allegedly resulted in more than $500,000 in combined illegal profits. According to the SEC's complaint, Yedid, a managing director at a consulting firm serving pharmaceutical and biotechnology companies, repeatedly shared material nonpublic information regarding drug trial results, financial and regulatory developments, and pending mergers and acquisitions with Kaufman and Jacobs, who traded on that information between 2019 and 2024. The SEC continues to focus on potential insider trading in connection with pharmaceutical and biotech companies.

Enforcement Actions

SEC Settles Litigation with Individual Charged in Microcap Fraud Scheme

SOURCE | SEC | READ MORE

On July 7, 2026, the SEC filed a consent and proposed final judgment as to defendant Steve Bajic in a previously filed action against 15 defendants alleging a fraudulent microcap scheme. According to the SEC's complaint, Bajic worked with others to help undisclosed public company insiders secretly sell large quantities of microcap stock through a network of foreign companies designed to conceal the true ownership of the shares, while related bank accounts were used to disguise the sources of funds used for stock promotion activities.

CFTC Charges North Carolina Commodity Pool Operator and His Company with Fraud

SOURCE | CFTC | READ MORE

On July 7, 2026, the CFTC sued Trevor L. Vernon and Argent Capital for an alleged $14m commodity pool fraud, alleging false performance reports, misappropriation and Ponzi style payments. The complaint seeks restitution, disgorgement, penalties and registration bans and signals the Commission's focus on accuracy of investor reporting and fund cash flow integrity. CPOs/CTAs and managers running futures/crypto strategies should test performance reporting controls, verify registration status, and tighten cash flow oversight.

Hong Kong SFC – SFC Suspends Wong Tim Hi for Nine Months

SOURCE | SFC | READ MORE

On July 6, 2026, SFC suspended the license of Mr. Wong Tim Hi (also known as Timmy Wong), a former licensed representative of Yuanta Securities (Hong Kong) Company Limited ("Yuanta"), for nine months from 3 July 2026 to 2 April 2027. The disciplinary action stemmed from the SFC's investigation into a market manipulation scheme involving the shares of Ching Lee Holdings Limited (Ching Lee), where the SFC found that between June 2016 and May 2017, Wong allowed two third parties to be highly involved in operating four client accounts without obtaining written authorization from the relevant clients. Wong also disclosed clients' confidential information to the third parties without authorization, including details of client accounts, transactions, fund movements and fund balances. Although Wong claimed the clients had requested third parties to assist with their trading accounts, he failed to obtain or verify written authorization, thereby breaching Yuanta's internal policies and failing to protect clients' interests. In deciding the sanction, the SFC considered Wong's remorse, his willingness to accept the disciplinary sanction, and his otherwise clean disciplinary record.

Enforcement Actions

Singapore MAS – MAS Issues Prohibition Order against Andrew Tiew Siew Ing for Cheating Offences

SOURCE | MAS | READ MORE

On July 6, 2026, MAS issued a 10-year prohibition order (PO) under the FSMA against Mr. Andrew Tiew Siew Ing, a former representative of AXA Insurance Pte Ltd (now part of HSBC Life Singapore). Between March 2018 and June 2019, Mr. Tiew induced an individual to transfer money to him for the purchase of fictitious investment plans and subsequently induced further transfers on the pretext of processing the sale of Malaysian properties, promising repayment from the proceeds; in total, Mr. Tiew induced the individual to transfer more than S$570,000 to him. On December 9, 2024, Mr. Tiew was convicted of two counts of cheating under section 417 of the Penal Code, with four further counts of cheating and dishonestly inducing a delivery of property under section 420 taken into consideration for sentencing, resulting in a 32-month imprisonment term. In view of his offences, MAS was satisfied that Mr. Tiew is not a fit and proper person under the Guidelines on Fit and Proper Criteria, and under the PO effective July 6, 2026, he is prohibited for 10 years from carrying on any MAS regulated or authorized activity, participating in the management of any financial institution, acting as a director, partner or manager of any financial institution, or becoming or increasing his interest as a substantial shareholder of any financial institution that is a corporation.

UAE ADGM FSRA: FSRA Warns Against Veyron Markets

SOURCE | ADGM FSRA | READ MORE

On July 8, 2026, the FSRA issued an alert concerning a suspected fraudulent scheme and false or misleading claims by Veyron Markets Ltd. The FSRA confirmed that the entity has never been granted Financial Services Permission and has never been incorporated or commercially licensed in ADGM. The alert reinforces the importance of checking both the FSRA Public Register and the ADGM Registration Authority register before dealing with a firm claiming an ADGM connection. Firms should also monitor impersonation, clone websites and misuse of regulatory status.

UAE ADGM: RA Warns of False Grummies ADGM Holding Company License

SOURCE | ADGM | READ MORE

On July 8, 2026, the ADGM Registration Authority warned about a document purporting to be an ADGM Commercial License issued to Grummies ADGM Holding Company. The RA confirmed that the entity is not incorporated, registered or licensed in ADGM, has not applied for a commercial license and has no connection with the RA. The announcement reminds firms and investors to verify claimed ADGM status through the public register and to use ADGM's document verification tool where license or incorporation documents are provided.

Enforcement Actions

UAE DFSA: DFSA Awarded Legal Costs in Al Ramz Tribunal Proceedings

SOURCE | DFSA | READ MORE

On July 15, 2026, the DFSA announced that the Financial Markets Tribunal had awarded it approximately USD 143,000, or AED 524,810, towards external and internal legal costs following proceedings brought by Al Ramz Capital LLC. This was the first case in which the DFSA sought recovery of internal legal costs before the Tribunal. The Tribunal awarded all internal costs relating to the privacy application and 25% of the internal costs claimed for the substantive reference, after finding aspects of the proceedings had been pursued unreasonably. The underlying USD 25,000 fine had been upheld in February 2026. Firms considering a Tribunal reference should assess the merits, governance and potential costs exposure of the challenge at an early stage.

Crypto Corner

SEC Adds Crypto Rulemaking to Its 2026 Regulatory Agenda

SOURCE | SEC | READ MORE

On July 7, 2026, SEC Chairman Paul Atkins announced that the agency's 2026 Regulatory Agenda includes significant digital asset rulemaking priorities. The agenda focuses on clearer rules for crypto asset capital raising, custody, trading, and tokenized securities. Atkins said the SEC intends to bring more crypto products onshore while maintaining investor protection safeguards and pursuing misconduct. Although detailed proposals have not yet been released, the agenda provides a roadmap for the SEC's near-term approach to crypto regulation.

Crypto Corner

CFTC Blocks Kalshi Trade Cancellations Following Michigan Court Order

SOURCE | CFTC | READ MORE

On July 14, 2026, the CFTC stayed an emergency rule change proposed by KalshiEX after a Michigan court directed the exchange to cancel previously executed trades involving Michigan residents. The CFTC also ordered Kalshi to fulfill the pending trades under its normal procedures, citing the need for uniform, predictable, and nondiscriminatory access to federally regulated derivatives markets. “A state cannot force a DCM to violate its obligations, and federal law does not permit a DCM to discriminate against a state’s residents,” said Chairman Michael S. Selig. “Canceling trades that have already been executed is an unprecedented step that risks a cascading effect on the entire marketplace and undermines the certainty in contracting that is a necessary component of a functioning market. The Commission will not allow states or state courts to bully registered entities into violating the Commodity Exchange Act and CFTC regulations.” Although Michigan is the first state to attempt to interfere directly with executed derivatives transactions, states have attempted to bring enforcement actions against CFTC-regulated DCMs in state and federal courts throughout the nation. To protect the jurisdiction granted to it by Congress, the CFTC has filed lawsuits against Arizona, Connecticut, Illinois, Kentucky, Minnesota, New Mexico, New York, Rhode Island, and Wisconsin.

DOJ Charges Prisoner with Laundering Forfeited Cryptocurrency

SOURCE | DOJ | READ MORE

On July 9, 2026, the DOJ charged Rossen G. Iossifov with allegedly withdrawing and laundering approximately $290,000 in cryptocurrency that had already been seized and ordered forfeited to the United States. Prosecutors allege the funds were routed through multiple cryptocurrency exchanges and illicit mixing services to prevent the government from taking possession. Iossifov was already serving a federal prison sentence related to an earlier online fraud and cryptocurrency-laundering scheme. The case highlights the DOJ’s continued focus on blockchain tracing, mixing services, forfeiture enforcement, and the recovery of digital assets connected to financial crime.

Leadership & Development

In Times of Complexity, The Best Leaders Act Like Conductors

SHARIFAH MASTEN | FORBES | READ MORE

Today's organizations operate less like rigid hierarchies and more like interconnected systems. Teams span functions, geographies and disciplines. Technology evolves faster than policies. Solving problems increasingly requires collaboration across expertise rather than direction from a single authority. The author posits that this is why effective leadership isn't about commanding; it should look more like conducting a symphony. A conductor's role is to choose the music, set the tempo, establish alignment and ensure each section of instruments contributes to the whole. They create the conditions for everyone to perform together at their best. The same principle can apply to modern leadership.

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