



Center for Board Effectiveness

Audit Committee *Brief*

The *Audit Committee Brief* focuses on the timely coverage of issues and insights important to audit committees. Questions, comments, or suggestions should be directed to centerforboardeffectiveness@deloitte.com.

ARCHIVED EDITIONS

Publications and topics of interest

The CAQ and AICPA release a new roadmap for ESG reporting and attestation

The Center for Audit Quality teamed up with the AICPA to release a new roadmap providing audit practitioners with a blueprint to help companies achieve their environmental, social, and governance (ESG) reporting goals. *ESG Reporting and Attestation: A Roadmap for Audit Practitioners* provides tools to help independent auditors inform their clients' approach to ESG disclosures and to assist clients in determining whether to seek an attestation report on ESG information.

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Board Practices Quarterly: 2021 boardroom agenda

Board Practices Quarterly is a series of periodic reports from Deloitte and the Society for Corporate Governance. Each report is based on a brief survey of Society members on timely issues and is designed to provide insights and benchmarking data on a frequent basis. This edition identifies some of the key areas and trends expected to be on boardroom agendas this year, according to a December 2020 survey of in-house members of the Society for Corporate Governance. These areas look beyond perennial agenda items, such as strategy and risk, and instead focus on new and emerging topics as many companies continue to respond to unanticipated events that unfolded during 2020.

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FERF releases annual report of public company audit fees

Respondents to the Financial Education & Research Foundation's (FERF) 11th annual audit fee survey reveal that changes in FASB standards are the leading cause of rising audit fees at public companies, followed by the high volume of mergers and acquisitions and a growing focus on revenue recognition.

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IFRS Foundation takes steps toward establishing global sustainability standards

The International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) Foundation is working to establish global sustainability reporting standards. The trustees reviewed responses to the three questions posed in a December 2020 consultation paper and are planning to spearhead the effort to create a universal framework for corporate reporting on sustainability issues.

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Considerations for investing in digital assets

This three-part series focuses on issues companies should consider before they invest in bitcoin or other digital assets. The articles shed light on the nature of the digital assets and the inherent risks while also discussing the accounting, tax, treasury, and controls ramifications. The series was published in Deloitte Insights in *CFO Journal* from *The Wall Street Journal*. The Wall Street Journal News Department was not involved in the creation of this content.

[Part 1: Does Bitcoin Belong on Your Balance Sheet? | March 2, 2021](#)

[Part 2: Bitcoin Holdings: Why Tax and Accounting Matter | March 8, 2021](#)

[Part 3: For Bitcoin, Unique Custody and Control Protocols Needed | March 15, 2021](#)

Rule-making and standard-setting developments

The SEC increases focus on climate-related disclosure

Allison Herren Lee, acting chair of the SEC, issued a statement on February 24, 2021, directing the Division of Corporation Finance to enhance its focus on climate-related disclosure for public companies. This step is intended to yield more consistent, comparable, and reliable reporting.

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Mission possible: Rebooting the controllership franchise

March 25, 2:00 p.m. ET

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Financial accounting and reporting for income taxes: Important updates

March 31, 1:00 p.m. ET

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Audit Committees and the Raised Expectations for Internal Audit

April 7, 9:00 a.m. ET

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The Board's Role in Battling Financial Crime

May 12, 11:00 a.m. ET

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Diversity and the Board

June 3, 10:00 a.m. ET

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Private Company Governance Summit

June 9—11, 2021

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The Center for Board Effectiveness helps directors deliver value to the organizations they serve through a portfolio of high quality, innovative experiences throughout their tenure as board members. Whether an individual is aspiring to board participation or a veteran of many board experiences, the Center's programs enable them to contribute effectively and provide focus in the areas of governance and audit, strategy, risk, innovation, compensation and succession. For more information, contact us at centerforboardeffectiveness@deloitte.com

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