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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.

Business transformation: Creating value through effective risk management and controls

In a time when transformation is happening at a rapid pace, this article from *Deloitte Risk & Compliance Journal*, published in the *WSJ*, discusses the need for a multitiered risk management program that should consider two important categories of risk: those associated with the transformation itself and those related to building a strong business risk and controls environment in response to the transformation. Such an approach may provide greater efficiency, security, and resiliency.

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2024 Audit Committee Transparency Barometer

This Center for Audit Quality and Ideagen Audit Analytics publication highlights trends in audit committee disclosures. It discusses whether the board of directors discloses a skills matrix, board composition, and responsibilities for emerging risk areas like cybersecurity and environmental, social, and governance.

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Auditor responsibilities for detecting, evaluating, and making communications about illegal acts

This PCAOB *Spotlight* summarizes auditing requirements including examples related to detecting and evaluating illegal acts. Also discussed are the requirements around communications to the audit committee relating to illegal acts that are identified during the audit. The *Spotlight* was published concurrently with an update to the PCAOB calendar, deferring further consideration of the PCAOB's proposed new standard to address the auditor's consideration of noncompliance with laws and regulations (NOCLAR) to calendar year 2025. This change provides the Board additional time for analysis of comment letters and other public responses to the NOCLAR proposal.

Succession steps for readying the next CFO

The selection and onboarding of a new CFO is an important inflection point for companies and their finance functions. According to this *Deloitte CFO Journal* article, published in the *WSJ*, important steps that incumbent CFOs can take to navigate this process include making sure the CFO role profile is up to date, taking stock of the pipeline of talent, identifying and addressing skill gaps, and providing potential successors with opportunities to interact with the C-suite and the board.

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CAQ's 2024 Audit Partner Pulse Survey results

The Center for Audit Quality recently surveyed audit partners from leading public company audit firms about their views on the current US business environment. Areas highlighted include inflation, domestic and global political upheaval, and the impact of artificial intelligence on labor strategies.

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Harnessing tech to elevate third-party bribery, corruption risk management programs

Tech-enablement, when done correctly, can help improve the effectiveness of a risk management program. This *Deloitte CFO Journal* article in the *WSJ*, discusses how by leveraging technology, organizations can achieve better risk identification and classification for their third parties, enhanced collaboration across the third-party lifecycle, cost savings, and potentially improved compliance, ultimately leading to a more robust and resilient risk management program.

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Audit committee communications

In this PCAOB *Audit Focus*, the staff discusses common deficiencies in communications from auditors to audit committees that have been identified in recent inspections. Common pitfalls or omissions include the management representation letter, overall audit strategy, misstatements, control matters, critical accounting policies, among others. The publication also includes good practices to help avoid these issues.

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New California law tweaks climate requirements, but not deadlines

California Governor Gavin Newson has signed into law amendments to two California climate laws, but the deadline for compliance remains unchanged. This article from *Deloitte Risk & Compliance Journal*, published in the *WSJ*, discusses that among the amendments under SB-219 is a provision allowing reporting entities to provide consolidated emission disclosures to comply with SB-253 at the parent-company level.

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Upcoming virtual experiences

Quarterly accounting roundup: Q4 2024 update on important developments* December 17, 1:00 p.m. ET

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February 19, 11:00 a.m. ET

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About the Center for Board Effectiveness

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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