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## WHY ARE DISCLOSURE POLICIES IMPORTANT?

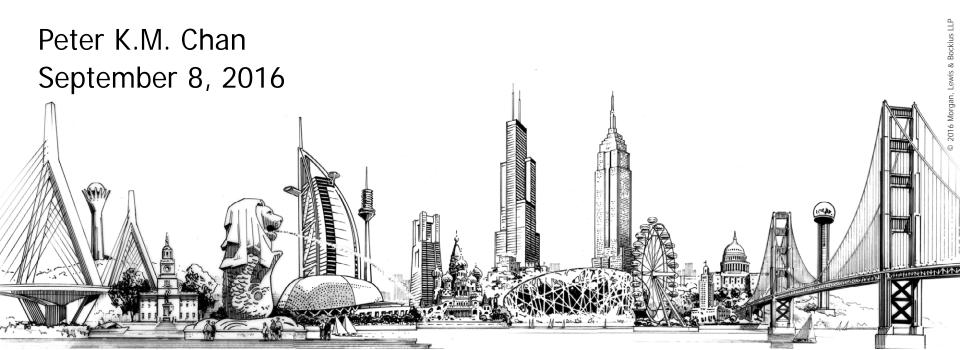
PLACING DISCLOSURE POLICIES
WITHIN THE CONTEXT OF TRENDS
IN SEC ENFORCEMENT ACTIVITY

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### Morgan Lewis

## CALIFORNIA DEBT AND INVESTMENT ADVISORY COMMISSION

# WHY ARE DISCLOSURE POLICIES IMPORTANT? PLACING DISCLOSURE POLICIES WITHIN THE CONTEXT OF TRENDS IN THE SEC ENFORCEMENT ACTIVITY



#### **Overview**

- The SEC's Public Finance Abuse Unit
- The PFA Unit's application of the "negligent fraud" theory
- The PFA Unit's application of "Control Person" liability theory against senior municipal officials
- Types of SEC cases involving municipalities
- Actions against individuals
- Actions against gatekeepers
- How robust disclosure procedures can help reduce the risk of SEC enforcement scrutiny.

#### **2016 RELEVANT CASES**

 SEC Charges 71 Municipal Issuers in Muni Bond Disclosure Initiative August 24, 2016

https://www.sec.gov/news/pressrelease/2016-166.html

 Former CEO of Chicago Charter School Operator Settles Muni-Bond Fraud Charges

June 21, 2016

https://www.sec.gov/news/pressrelease/2016-125.html

• SEC: Muni Advisors Acted Deceptively with California School Districts June 13, 2016

https://www.sec.gov/news/pressrelease/2016-118.html

#### 2016 RELEVANT CASES CONT.

 Mayor in Illinois Settles Muni Bond Fraud Charges May 19, 2016

https://www.sec.gov/news/pressrelease/2016-93.html

 SEC: Town Officials in New York Hid Financial Troubles from Bond Investors

April 14, 2016

https://www.sec.gov/news/pressrelease/2016-68.html

 Municipal Advisor Charged for Failing to Disclose Conflict March 15, 2016

https://www.sec.gov/news/pressrelease/2016-54.html

#### 2016 RELEVANT CASES CONT.

 California Water District to Pay Penalty for Misleading Investors March 9, 2016
 https://www.sec.gov/news/pressrelease/2016-43.html

 SEC Charges Rhode Island Agency and Wells Fargo with Fraud in 38 Studios Bond Offering March 7, 2016

https://www.sec.gov/news/pressrelease/2016-37.html

 SEC Completes Muni-Underwriter Enforcement Sweep February 2, 2016

https://www.sec.gov/news/pressrelease/2016-18.html

 SEC Charges State Street for Pay-to-Play Scheme January 14, 2016

https://www.sec.gov/news/pressrelease/2016-8.html

## **QUESTIONS?**

#### Biography



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Morgan Lewis partner Peter K.M. Chan brings two decades of experience at the US Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) to his litigation and counseling work. He represents public companies, financial services firms, and other organizations in litigation, investigations, and regulatory actions by federal agencies. Former head of the SEC Chicago office's Municipal Securities and Public Pensions Unit, Peter also advises clients on compliance and regulatory matters impacting the municipal securities markets and investments by public pensions and other institutions. His tenure at the SEC, as well as a stint as Special Assistant US Attorney in the Northern District of Illinois, have given Peter significant experience with both civil and criminal matters.

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