



Legal Disclaimer

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Seyfarth Shaw LLP

Speakers



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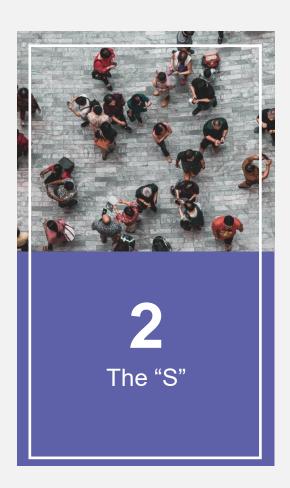
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Agenda









1 The ESG Framework



Marketplace Shifts

- Social norms are shifting business norms
- Purpose of the corporation is being repurposed
- ESG is and doing many things:
 - Economic / enterprise value
 - Pillar of Impact (Values)
 - Changing the C-Suite
 - Changing the role of in-house legal
 - Increasing board's engagement with traditionally nonfinancial matters

ESG – Trying to Define it

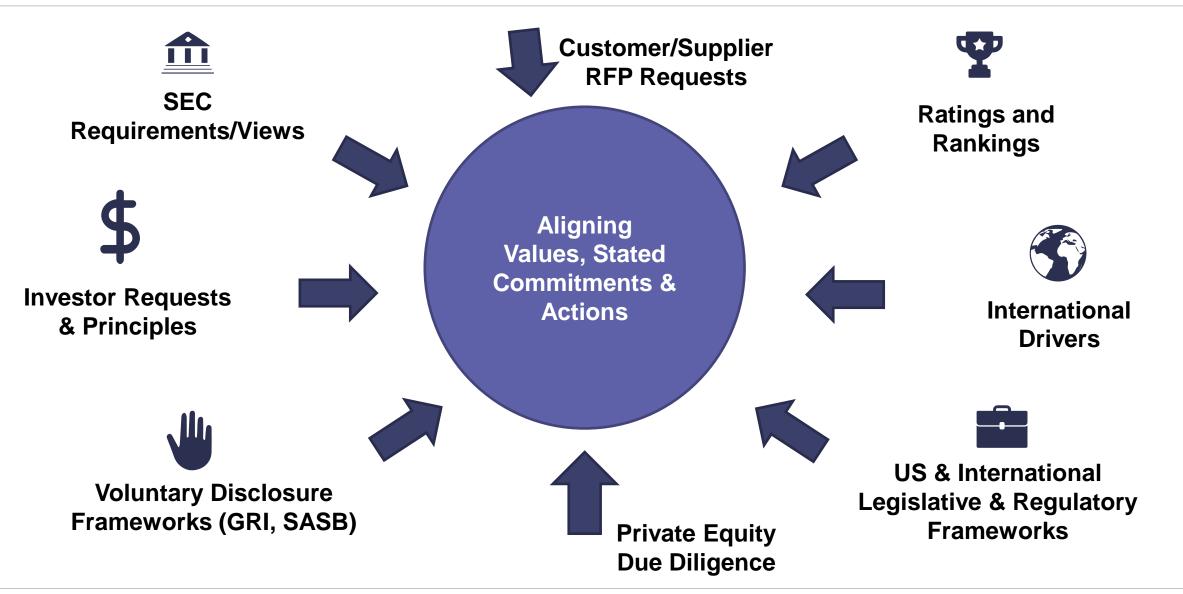
What it is....

- Undefined & amorphous
- Enterprise-wide financial proposition
- A path to develop resiliency and profits
- Integrated with business strategy
- A way to tell potential hires, clients and the marketplace who you are
- Aligned with purpose, mission & values

What it is not....

- A single thing
- An area of law (yet)
- Climate, DE&I, pro bono, data privacy or any other single topic under the umbrella of ESG
- A check the box exercise
- A "do good" business

ESG is Everywhere – The Why



Organizing ESG

Interconnectedness of the E, S, G with business strategy & impact

GOVERNANCE

- ESG oversight
- Policy
- Executive compensation benchmarking
- Board structure & Independence

- Connecting the dots
- Fiduciary duty
- Disclosure oversight
- · Business ethics
- ERM

ENVIRONMENTAL

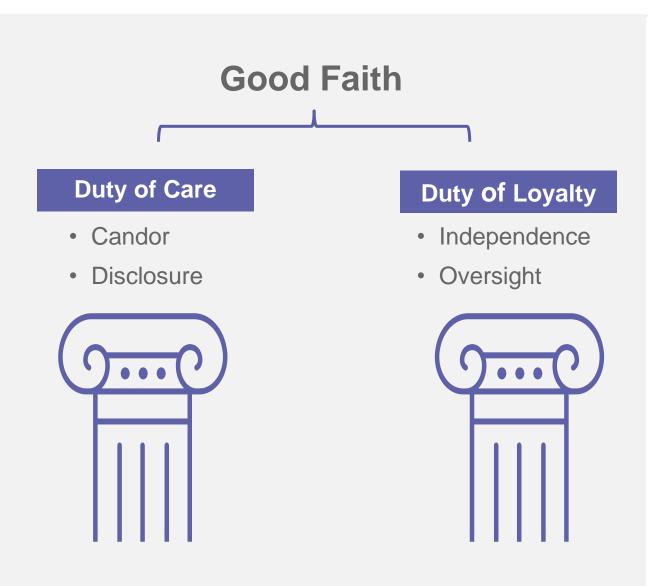
- Natural resources consumed in operations
- Impact on the environment or climate
- Environmental impact of supply chain
- Climate change and regulatory response
- Emissions tracking and disclosure
- Biodiversity impacts

SOCIAL

- Board diversity
- Human capital (well-being, fair and equitable pay, health and safety, talent management, inclusion, equity and diversity)
- Racial equity audits
- Supplier agreements with ESG standards
- Human rights and labor standards and policy
- Community & stakeholder engagement
- Data privacy

US Fiduciary Duties and Governance of the E&S

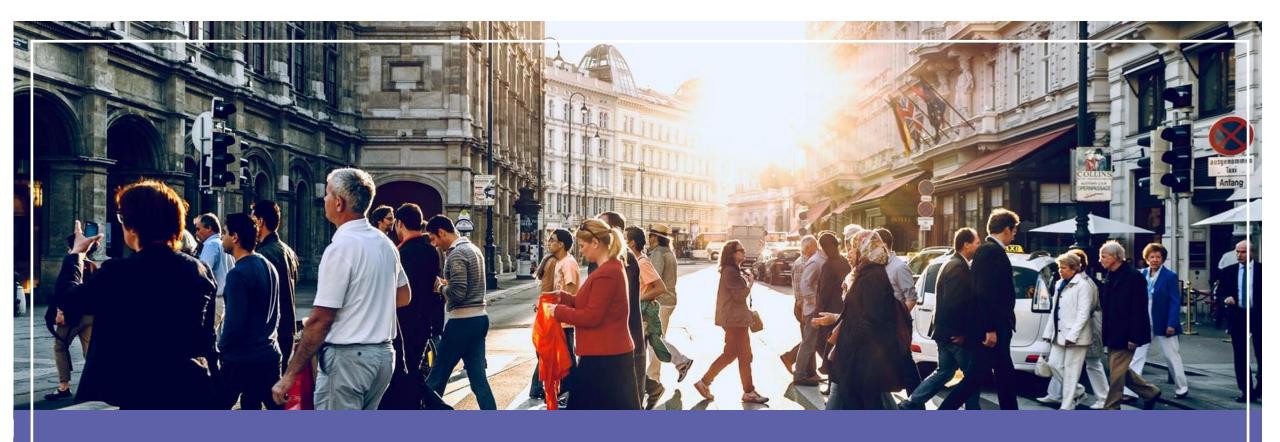
- Role of the Board vs. role of management
- Board oversight tested in the courts
- Fiduciary duties





Litigation Outlook

- SEC Regulations
 - Climate-related Disclosure Rule
 - ESG Fund Strategies
 - Greenwashing of Fund names
- Greenwashing
 - Consumer Protection
 - False Advertising
- Environmental Enforcement
 - Climate policies
 - Environmental justice
- ERISA Matters
 - Department of Labor Rule on ESG Factors
 - Dobbs Decision's Impact on ERISA
- Private Plaintiff Cases on Social Issues



2 The "S"



Social

- Human capital
- New SEC Disclosure requirements in 2020
- Insights from 2022 reporting
 - Board oversight references up
 - Safety still important
 - DEI continues to be important
 - Recruiting and retention focus
 - Benefits

Social: A Closer Look at Industry



- Carbon emissions
- Workplace health and safety measures
- Opportunities for training and upward mobility
- Technological innovation



- Emphasis on Board and leadership oversight of DEI and talent development
- Benefits
 - telecommuting
 - flexible work schedules
 - employee stock purchase plans

Human Capital Management Industry At-A-Glance

	Agriculture & Food	Construction & Real Estate	Energy & Natural Resources (Incl Utilities)	Financial & Insurance	Healthcare & Pharma	Industrial & Manufacturing	Retail	Services	Technology & Telecom	Transportation
COVID-19										
	75%	60%	80%	60%	80%	75%	70%	60%	65%	55%
Culture										•
	95%	70%	75%	55%	90%	75%	80%	100%	85%	55%
Demographics	70%	40 %	65%	75%	80%	50%	• 30%	50%	60%	70%
Diversity and Inclusion										
	100%	85%	100%	95%	100%	95%	95%	95%	95%	85%
Employee Health and Safety										
	95%	80%	100%	65%	100%	75%	80%	85%	75%	85%
Initiatives	90%	95%	65%	80%	100%	90%	70%	90%	80%	75%
Pay Equity	• 30%	• 25%	25%	40%	50%	• 25%	• 25%	25%	40%	10%
Recruiting and Retention	600/	750/	200/	0000	059/	9997	050/		750/	059/
recention	60%	75%	90%	90%	95%	90%	65%	100%	75%	85%
Talent Development and Management	000/	0.50/	900/	000/	4000	9997	950/	100%	050/	050/
	90%	85%	90%	90%	100%	90%	85%	100%	95%	95%
Did it mention the Board or a Board committee as having oversight of human capital?	65%	● 35%	60%	60%	40%	40%	40 %	35%	40%	35%

CLE Code



3 The "E"

Factors Behind the Increased Focus on Sustainability



Increased Stakeholder Demands

- Most public companies provide some reports
- Increased demand for industries to reduce greenhouse gas emissions
- Socially responsible investing

2

Proposed Rules and Regulations

- Federal rules
- States laws

3

International Pressure

- EU practices
- Paris Agreement
- Climate Pledge



Federal Funding and Programs



Environmental Considerations for 2023

- Decarbonization
 - Electric Vehicle charging stations
 - Battery production and recycling
 - Increased support for net zero
 - Alternative fuels
- Proposed SEC Rules
 - Disclosure Rule
- Federal Programs
 - National Electric Vehicle Incentive
 - Inflation Reduction Act
 - Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act
- Environmental Justice



Questions



thank you

contact information

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next webinar:

Commercial Litigation: Insights and Predictions for the Transportation & Logistics Industries

Thursday, April 27, 2023

Helpful Resources

- Seyfarth <u>Impact & ESG</u> practice
- ESG 101: Landscape & Considerations
- 2022 Human Capital Management Report
- 2023 Commercial Litigation Outlook

Additional resources, including Legal Updates and podcasts, available <u>here</u>