MMI 2012 Annual Convention April 24th – 26th, 2012



#### Compliance & Enforcement in 2012: What are the Implications for the Advisory Solutions Industry?

**Ronald Long** Wells Fargo Advisors, LLC Michelle Rhee Bank of America Steven Stone Morgan, Lewis & Bockius LLP

# **Compliance & Enforcement**

- Policy Issues
- Practice Issues
- Examinations & Enforcement Issues

# Policy Issues

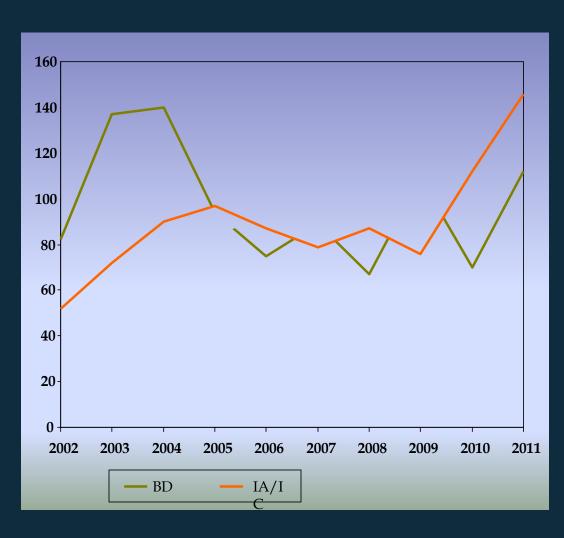
- Broader SEC Policy Agenda
  - Broad Demands of the Dodd-Frank Act
  - New JOBS Act Demands
- Managed Accounts
  - Rule 3a-4 Reconsideration?
  - The Fiduciary Duty Debate
    - Spillover Effects of a Standard of Care
  - Forthcoming DOL ERISA Investment Advice / Fiduciary Rule Proposal

### Practice Issues

- Suitability & Due Diligence Issues

   Effect of FINRA's Approach to Complex Products?
- Performance and Other Advertising Issues
- Alternative Investments
  - Impact of JOBS Act lifting bars to general solicitation
- Special Issues with FA as PM Programs
- Cross, Agency & Principal Trade Issues
- Fee Issues
  - Conflicts/Differentials
  - ERISA Section 408(b)(2) Issues

### Examinations & Enforcement Issues



- 146 cases against advisers and mutual funds
- 30% increase over FY 2010
- 92% increase from FY 2009
- 112 cases against brokers (70 in FY 2010)
- Cases against advisers, mutual funds and brokers represent 35% of SEC's enforcement docket

# SEC Examination & Enforcement Developments

- Changes in Exam & Enforcement Programs
  - Establishment of Enforcement's Asset Management Unit
  - Enforcement-OCIE Coordination
  - Dodd Frank Act Whistleblower Provisions
  - Hiring Specialized Personnel in OCIE and Enforcement
  - Technology Resources & Analytical Tools

- Areas of Enforcement Focus
  - Compliance & supervision
  - Performance claims, including aberrational performance
  - Selective disclosure
  - Valuation
  - Turn-key mutual fund solutions and inexperienced advisers
  - Mutual fund fees
  - Error correction
  - Insider trading

### Areas of SEC Examinations Focus

- Complex Entities
  - New shops
  - PE shops
  - Quant shops
- New or Risky Products
  - Retailization of complex investments
- Portfolio management activities that increase risk of investor loss
- Lack of due diligence on investment vehicles or managers and undisclosed conflicts
- Manipulative activity, such as front-running and insider trading

- Valuation practices and any conflicts
- Performance and advertising
- Compliance, supervision, and risk management
  - Cost cutting
  - Outside business
  - "Dual and affiliated registrants transitioning broker-dealer customers into advisory clients"
  - "Ineffective compliance and risk management [for] complex investments and/or investment strategies."
- Custody arrangements that increase the potential for misappropriation

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