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Venable attorneys produce periodic alerts and newsletters covering a variety of topics and practice areas. For your convenience, we have assembled below a collection of the latest alerts and newsletters from April 2015.

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White House Opens New Front to Combat Cyber Attacks

On April 1, President Obama signed [Executive Order 13694](#) modernizing the American arsenal of sanctions to counter new and evolving types of "cyber-enabled activities" and related threats. This new tool, write Venable attorneys [Ashley W. Craig](#), [Lindsay B. Meyer](#), [Carrie A. Kroll](#), and [Andrew L. Steinberg](#), authorizes the Treasury Department's Office of Foreign Assets Control, in consultation with the Attorney General and Secretary of State, to designate as Specially Designated Nationals individuals and entities determined to be responsible for or complicit in "malicious cyber-enabled activities."

Click to [learn how EO 13694 expands the United States' ability to effectively combat complex, malicious, and increasingly frequent cybercrime.](#)

Second Circuit Declines to Review Landmark *Newman* Insider Trading Decision

On April 3, 2015, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit denied a request to reconsider its landmark December 2014 ruling in [United States v. Newman](#). By declining to reconsider its *Newman* decision, the Second Circuit left in place a sharply narrowed definition of insider trading that limits the government's ability to prosecute insider trading cases (at least in the Second Circuit). Venable attorneys [Michael J. Rivera](#) and [Joanna P. Breslow Boyd](#) write that the government must now decide whether to appeal to the Supreme Court or rely on Congress to adopt legislation providing a statutory definition of illegal insider trading for the first time.

Click here for a [summary of the Newman decision, what it means for corporate insiders, and how it affects regulators.](#)

Closing the 100-mile Gap: Delisting Would Bring the U.S. Closer to Liberalizing Trade and Investment with Cuba

The Obama Administration will submit a report to Congress recommending removal of Cuba from the State Department's list of State Sponsors of Terrorism following a review initiated in December as part of the current plan to reestablish diplomatic relations. Unless Congress blocks the Administration's action through a joint resolution during the required 45-day Congressional review period, Cuba will be removed from the list. If that occurs, write Venable attorneys [Lindsay B. Meyer](#), [Carrie A. Kroll](#), and [Amanda C. Blunt](#), one expected change is that banks will recalculate the historically prohibitive risk and compliance costs associated with financing Cuban transactions.

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Click to [learn why delisting Cuba as a State Sponsor of Terrorism is spurring many U.S. organizations to reevaluate the risk of doing business with Cuba and to identify new opportunities throughout industry.](#)

Overview of Recent Retirement and Equity Plan Developments

The US Department of Labor reissued proposed fiduciary regulations on April 14. Once finalized, these regulations will affect the financial services industry and the products and services they provide to retirement plan sponsors, participants and individual retirement account or annuity (IRA) holders. Venable attorneys [Jean Y. Yu](#), [Harry I. Atlas](#), [Keith A. Mong](#), [Lisa A. Tavares](#), and [John A. Wilhelm](#) write that the IRS recently released a pair of revenue procedures that modified the Employee Plans Compliance Resolution System. And on March 31, the IRS also issued final regulations clarifying rules for stock options and grants.

Click here to [learn what your company can and should do under these new regulations.](#)



Additional Articles

[DC Employers Must Now Reasonably Accommodate Pregnant Employees](#)

[Knock Knock Knockin' On Employers' Doors: DC's "Zip Code Project" to Search Your Office](#)

[D.C. Circuit's Anti-SLAPP Decision Changes Landscape of Suits Involving Acts of Public Advocacy and Free Speech; Decision Creates Split among Federal Circuits](#)

[Report on April 29 DOES "Business Stakeholders Meeting" on DC Wage Theft Act](#)

[Virginia Is "Banning the Box" Now Too, at Least for Some Employers: Considerations When Requesting Pre-Employment Criminal History Information](#)

[Private Fund Update – April 1, 2015](#)

[New BLM Fracking Rule: Is It Here To Stay?](#)

[New York Creates the Utility of the Future](#)

[Observe and Report: Federal Maritime Commission Reviews Detention/Demurrage at US Ports](#)

[CFPB Targets Misleading Advertisements and Communications in Multiple Enforcement Actions and Other Updates](#)

[CFPB and FTC Indicate Expanded Coordination through Joint Complaint and Consent Order against Mortgage Servicing Company](#)

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