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GIBSON DUNN



Securities Regulation & Corporate Governance Update

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New Report on Trends in S&P 500 Board Evaluations and Related Stakeholder Perspectives

As companies head into the 2027 proxy season, now is a good time to revisit how your board conducts and describes its evaluation process.

As part of our ongoing collaboration with Korn Ferry, we analyzed board evaluation disclosures across the S&P 500, highlighting emerging governance trends and evolving market practices. This year's report shows a year-over-year increase in the number of companies disclosing (1) use a three-tier evaluation encompassing assessments of the board, committees and individual directors, (2) variation in approach year to year, (3) use of a third-party facilitator, and (4) changes made as a result of the evaluation.

Board evaluations remain a critical tool for enhancing board effectiveness, informing board refreshment and director succession planning, adapting governance practices to changing board dynamics, and assessing readiness for overseeing emerging challenges and opportunities, including technological advancements such as AI.

As companies head into the 2027 proxy season, now is a good time to revisit how your board conducts and describes its evaluation process. Read our blog post here and the complete Korn Ferry-Gibson Dunn research report here.

The following Gibson Dunn lawyers prepared this update: Aaron Briggs, Andrea Shen, and Antony Nguyen.

Please view additional information on Gibson Dunn's Securities Regulation & Corporate Governance Monitor.

Gibson Dunn's lawyers are available to assist with any questions you may have regarding federal securities laws and regulations. Please contact the Gibson Dunn lawyer with whom you usually work, the authors, or any of the following leaders and members of the firm's Securities Regulation & Corporate Governance practice group:

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