

Fiat Webinar Puts Nixon Peabody Ahead of the Competition

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The FIAT team, led by partner Ray Gustini, presented a webinar late last month on the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act. The FIAT webinar, "Financial Reform Countdown," positioned Nixon Peabody as being ahead of the competition on this groundbreaking financial reform legislation. The groundbreaking bill will fundamentally change the way the financial services sector is regulated by requiring the adoption of nearly 400 regulations and at least 60 studies.

FIAT was able to move quickly on Friday, June 25, when the bill was approved after negotiations over a three-week period between House and Senate conferees. With only a few days to plan, the FIAT team was able to launch its event on June 30, making Nixon Peabody among the first-to-market (if not the first). More than 150 clients/prospects registered, including contacts from several large, high priority client accounts.

During the webinar, Ray and five other NP attorneys addressed key sections of the bill. Ray spoke on systemic risk and presented an overview of key issues; Bill Kelly discussed private fund registration and the Volcker Rule; Barry Rothchild talked about derivatives; Lloyd Spencer spoke about credit rating agency reforms, executive compensation, and corporate governance; Keith Krasney discussed securitization and the new "holdback" requirements; and Paulette Morgan led the discussion on consumer finance regulation and litigation.

Ray was also quoted in an *American Banker* feature story that was published on Monday, June 28, about the reform bill. Since FIAT was launched, we have been working to develop more opportunities with the *American Banker* for comments on important issues.

Going forward FIAT plans to produce a series of more targeted webinars on specific titles or client issues raised by the bill. The team is also considering at least one large live conference with networking, potentially in partnership with *American Banker* or an equivalent organization or publication.