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**Sent:** Tuesday, May 22, 2018 3:15 PM  
**To:** Robert Barron <RBarron@bergersingerman.com>  
**Cc:** GTeblum@trenam.com; gbossa@anmpa.com; andrew.schwartz@akerman.com  
**Subject:** RE: Statement on Opinion Practices - Current Version

Robert,

The following updates my January 2018 report (which is below) on the current status and finalization of the Statement of Opinion Practices (“Statement”).

When I gave my last report to the BLS Legal Opinion Standards Committee (the “Florida BLS Committee”) about the status of the preparation of the Statement, I thought we were done, and that the then draft of the Statement would be approved by the Joint Committee at a meeting to be held in late January. However, at that meeting, it became clear that several folks from TriBar Opinions Committee still had additional comments to the Statement that would need to be addressed in order for the TriBar committee to approve the Statement. Working through those issues has continued over the last few months, and we finally now have a new draft of the Statement that appears to be acceptable to all. In that regard, the Joint Committee is meeting by telephone on Tuesday, May 29<sup>th</sup> to go over the further revised Statement, and I believe that it is likely that the Statement will be approved by the Joint Committee at that meeting. Once approved by the Joint Committee, the Statement must be presented to the sponsoring organizations (ABA BLS Legal Opinions Committee and WGLO) for their approval, and assuming it is approved by the sponsoring organizations, it will then be circulated to bar groups (including the Florida BLS Committee) seeking their approval of the Statement.

A current draft of the Statement, along with a marked draft showing changes to the Statement made since the draft that I transmitted to you with my January 15<sup>th</sup> e-mail, are attached. Also attached are (i) a current version of the Core Opinion Principles (a shortened version of the Statement that may be used by opinion givers who wish to incorporate or attach to their opinion letters a more concise statement of some of the opinion principles included in the Statement), (ii) an explanatory note that will accompany the Statement which explains where various sections of the Statement are derived, and (iii) a cross reference sheet showing the sources of the various provisions in the Statement compared to the existing ABA Principles and Guidelines.

Feel free to share this e-mail and the attachments with the members of the Florida BLS Committee to the extent you see fit. While I think that the Statement in its current form is acceptable, I want to give you, and anyone you decide to send this to, an opportunity to comment on the draft Statement so I can bring any such comments to the Joint Committee for its consideration at its upcoming meeting.

If you have any questions, please feel free to give me a call.

Phil