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# In The News

# Akerman Partner Douglas Paul Cautions Auditors and Companies of Heightened PCAOB Enforcement Amid Remote Work, Turnover Environment

#### August 12, 2022

Litigation partner <u>Douglas Paul</u> in Washington, D.C. spoke with Agenda following the release of a new overview issued by the Public Company Accounting **Oversight Board (PCAOB) regarding planned 2022** inspections. The document highlighted how remote work environments generate new auditing and reporting risks. It also outlined new inspection procedures with a focus on potential financial reporting and audit risks driven by the recent economic landscape, including supply chain disruption and company-wide risks at audit firms, "such as the heightened degree of staff turnover and risks arising from auditing in a remote environment." Paul explained that auditors and companies should prepare for much more vigorous enforcement programs.

*Agenda* wrote, "Historically, large companies that are going through an audit would have a large amount of physical space in their office devoted to the auditors, and there would be a lot of in-person communication going on throughout the audit procedure, which isn't always the case in a remote work environment, said Paul."

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