



LAW

BUSINESS AND
FINANCE LAW

THE FUTURE OF FINANCIAL MARKETS SYMPOSIUM

**Crypto to Prediction Markets
and Beyond**

Wednesday, May 13th, 2026

1:00 - 4:00 PM

Burns Moot Courtroom
The George Washington University Law School
2000 H ST NW
Washington, DC 20052

Reception to follow at 4:00pm

AGENDA

12:45 - 1:00 pm	Registration
1:00 - 1:10 pm	Welcome Michael Rand, GW Law
1:10 - 1:30 pm	Fireside Chat with David Miller, CFTC — Moderator: Kristin Johnson, GW Law
1:30 - 2:30 pm	Session 1 Developments in Crypto-Legislation and Stablecoin Regulation - The GENIUS and CLARITY Acts — John Zecca, NASDAQ — Yvette D. Valdez, Latham & Watkins, LLP — Justin Slaughter, Paradigm — Brian Quintenz, Sui Holdings Group — Stephen Humenik, Crypto.com — Lucas West, SIFMA — Ashley Scott, Circle — Chen Arad, Solidus — Rebecca Rettig, Jito Labs — Moderator: Ian McGinley, Sidley Austin
2:30 - 2:45 pm	Break
2:45 - 3:45 pm	Session 2 The Evolution of Prediction Markets — Rick Heaslip, Kalshi — Jon DeBord, Robinhood — Neal Kumar, Polymarket — Joe Schifano, Eventus — Moderator: David Meister, Skadden
3:45 - 4:00 pm	Closing Remarks
4:00 - 6:00 pm	Cocktail Reception

SPEAKERS & MODERATORS



Chen Arad

Solidus Labs | Co-Founder

Chen Arad is the co-founder of Solidus Labs, a Citi-recognized leader in crypto market surveillance, which monitors over 250 million events daily across \$16 trillion in crypto and DeFi markets. He leads the firm's market engagement, policy, and communications strategy, working with regulators and industry leaders to advance integrity standards. Arad founded the Crypto Market Integrity Coalition (CMIC), co-founded the Digital Asset Compliance and Market Integrity Summit and Podcast, and serves on the CFTC's Global Markets Advisory Committee and Global Digital Finance's Advisory Council. A frequent media contributor, he regularly appears on CNBC, Bloomberg, and Coindesk.



Jon DeBord

Robinhood | Head of Legal – Banking & Derivatives

Jon DeBord currently serves as the Head of Legal for Banking and Derivatives at Robinhood. In this role, he is responsible for legal oversight of Robinhood's derivatives brokerage, including futures and event contracts (prediction markets), as well as its banking services, credit card products, and related intellectual property matters. Prior to joining Robinhood, DeBord was the General Counsel at ForecastEx. DeBord was also in the Office of General Counsel at Interactive Brokers and Citi Group.

Prior to his career in private industry, DeBord served as Attorney Advisor, Special Counsel, and Counsel to Commissioner Jill E. Sommers at the Commodity Futures Trading Commission for almost 4 years.



Rick Heaslip

Kalshi | General Counsel & Chief Regulatory Officer

Rick Heaslip, Esq. serves as Kalshi Inc.'s General Counsel and Chief Regulatory Officer. Rick has oversight over all legal matters at Kalshi, including litigation, commercial deals, and regulatory affairs. Prior to joining Kalshi, Rick practiced law at Weil, Gotshal & Manges, LLP and at Duane Morris, LLP. In addition to his legal expertise, Rick has a deep understanding of trading and market dynamics, with years of experience in event contract trading and as a professional poker player. Rick is a 2008 graduate of the University of Pennsylvania and a 2014 graduate of Harvard Law School.



Stephen Humenik

Crypto.com | Global Head of Legal for Prediction & Capital Markets

As EVP, Global Head of Legal for Prediction & Capital Markets, Steve oversees Crypto.com's Prediction and Capital Markets offerings from a legal and regulatory perspective, including our CFTC-regulated Exchange and Clearinghouse that offers Event Contracts across Sports, Financials, Politics, Culture, Crypto, Companies, Economics, and Climate. Previously, as Global Head of Clearing, Steve oversaw the clearing of Event Contracts and Margined Derivatives in the U.S. and on a cross-border basis and am responsible for growing the business to include additional Clearing Members, Futures Commission Merchants (FCMs) and Introducing Brokers (IBs).

SPEAKERS & MODERATORS



Kristin Johnson

*GW Law | Lyle T. Alverson
Professor of Law*

President Joseph R. Biden nominated Professor Johnson to take on two prominent roles as a financial market regulator. In September 2021, President Biden nominated Professor Johnson to serve as a CFTC Commissioner, and, on March 30, 2022, after being unanimously confirmed by the United States Senate, she was sworn in to serve as a CFTC Commissioner. In the summer of 2024, President Biden nominated Professor Johnson to serve as the Assistant Secretary for Financial Institutions at the United States Department of the Treasury.

Professor Johnson is a nationally recognized expert on financial markets risk management law and policy with specialization in the regulation of complex financial products including the origination, distribution, and secondary market trading, clearing, and settlement of securities and derivatives.



Jeremy McClane

GW Law | Professor of Law

Jeremy McClane is a legal scholar specializing in corporate law, securities regulation and commercial transactions. His research employs empirical methods and systems analysis to examine how legal frameworks shape transactional outcomes. Before joining the faculty at the George Washington University Law School, he was a professor at the University of Illinois College of Law, where he was affiliated with the Program on Law, Behavior and Social Science. He previously served on the faculty of the University of Connecticut School of Law and held appointments as a clinical instructor and lecturer at Harvard Law School.

Prior to entering academia, Professor McClane practiced in the International Capital Markets Group of the firm now known as A&O Shearman, working in its London and Paris offices. He also served as in-house counsel at the London offices of MFS Investment Management and Goldman Sachs International.



Neal Kumar

PolyMarket | Chief Legal Officer

Neal Kumar is a Chief Legal Officer at PolyMarket.

Kumar brings extensive expertise in derivatives and commodities law, advising financial institutions, trading companies, and investment funds on regulatory compliance and transactional matters. He has a deep understanding of CFTC and self-regulatory organization obligations, coupled with robust experience in enforcement defense for entities facing investigations. Prior to his role at PolyMarket, Kumar held a Partner position at Willkie Farr & Gallagher LLP, where he represented a diverse clientele in complex regulatory, enforcement, and transactional issues.



Ian McGinley

Sidley Austin | Partner

Ian McGinley is one of the few former Commodity Futures Trading Commission (CFTC) Directors of Enforcement in private practice. He focuses his practice on regulatory enforcement and white collar criminal defense, with a particular emphasis on commodities, derivatives, and securities laws. He also advises clients in civil and criminal matters involving digital assets.

Before joining Sidley, Ian served as the Director of Enforcement at the CFTC from 2023 to early 2025. In that role, he served as the head enforcement official in the United States tasked with investigating and prosecuting violations of the Commodity Exchange Act (CEA) and CFTC regulations.



David Meister

Skadden | Partner, White Collar Defense & Investigations

David Meister is co-head of Skadden's White Collar Defense and Investigations Group for the Americas.

Having served twice in federal law enforcement — most recently as enforcement director of the U.S. Commodity Futures Trading Commission (CFTC) and previously as an assistant U.S. attorney in the Southern District of New York — Mr. Meister has more than 30 years of experience litigating enforcement and white collar crime matters from both the prosecution and the defense perspectives. He represents global financial institutions and other corporations and their boards, and individuals, in matters involving the full range of federal, state and international criminal and enforcement agencies. He has conducted numerous jury trials and has led internal investigations throughout his career.



Brian Quintenz

Sui Holdings Group | Director

Brian D. Quintenz is a current Board Chair Board Director, and Advisor to some of the most innovative and exciting companies in finance and technology. He was the former Head of Policy for 16z crypto, the crypto venture funds of Andreesen Horowitz. He has worked globally to construct appropriately calibrated regulatory crypto frameworks which both protect consumers and respect the innovation of decentralization.

Previously, Quintenz was nominated by both Presidents Obama and Trump to be a Commissioner of the U.S. Commodity Futures Trading Commission, was unanimously confirmed by the Senate on August 3, 2017, and was sworn into office on August 15, 2017 for the remainder of a five-year term expiring in April 15, 2020.



David I. Miller

CFTC | Director of Enforcement

David I. Miller is the Director of Enforcement at the Commodity Futures Trading Commission. In this role, he leads the Division of Enforcement, which investigates and prosecutes alleged violations of the Commodity Exchange Act and Commission regulations.

Mr. Miller joins the CFTC from private practice, having served as a litigation partner at two global law firms, Greenberg Traurig and Morgan Lewis. His practice has focused on white-collar defense, government and internal investigations, commodities and securities enforcement, complex civil litigation, digital asset enforcement and regulatory issues, and national security matters.



Michael Rand

GW Law | Assistant Dean for Business & Finance Law

Michael Rand is the Assistant Dean for Business and Finance Law at the George Washington University Law School. He researches areas pertaining to private credit, derivatives, and firm choice of incorporation.

His most recent publication, Private Credit's Public Consequences with the Villanova Law Review (forthcoming issue), examines the risks of private credit related to financial stability and expanded retail exposure. Prior work of Dr. Rand has examined the persistence of asset pricing anomalies in complete and incomplete markets, and non-financial firm use of derivative markets, including hedging and effects on firm financial constraints. He also researches firm choice of incorporation as it relates to controlling shareholders, conflicted transactions, and changes to the Delaware General Corporation Law (DGCL).

SPEAKERS & MODERATORS



Rebecca Rettig

Jito Labs | Chief Legal Officer

Rebecca Rettig is the Chief Legal Officer at Jito Labs, where she oversees all legal, compliance, and policy matters as the company scales its products and deepens its impact within the Jito and Solana ecosystems. With extensive experience navigating global regulatory frameworks for blockchain technology, she plays a pivotal role in ensuring Jito Labs remains at the forefront of DeFi innovation and regulatory best practices

Combining a decade of financial litigation experience at Cravath, Swaine & Moore LLP with pioneering legal work at several leading firms, including Manatt, Phelps & Phillips LLP, Rettig brings additional perspective from her roles in key industry bodies.



Ashley N. Scott

Circle | Senior Director, Global Policy & Government Affairs

Ashley N. Scott is a seasoned professional with extensive experience in global policy and public regulatory affairs. Currently serving as Senior Director of Global Policy at Circle since July 2022, Ashley previously held key roles at Lime, including Head of Global Public Policy and Director of Global Regulatory/Policy - Legal. Prior experience encompasses serving as Assistant City Attorney/Public Policy and Legislative Counsel for the City of Atlanta, as well as legal positions at The Employment Law Solution and Ogletree Deakins Nash Smoak & Stewart, P.C. Additionally, Ashley completed a legal externship at The Coca-Cola Company. Ashley N. Scott holds a Juris Doctorate from Emory University School of Law and a Bachelor of Science in Public Relations from the University of Florida.



Joe Schifano

Eventus | Global Head of Regulatory Affairs

Joe brings 20 years of experience to Eventus, where he partners with client stakeholders, champions their needs and concerns, communicates regulatory trends, offers insights to maximize effectiveness, and helps compliance and supervisory staff build best-in-class surveillance and monitoring capabilities.

He most recently served as Deputy General Counsel and Global CCO at Tower Research Capital. He successfully led the global compliance team for this proprietary trading firm with 30 trading teams and activity in over 80 electronic markets globally with staff in New York, London, Gurgaon and Singapore. At Tower, he also served as CCO for Latour Trading LLC and TRC Markets LLC from 2016 to 2018, and as Counsel from 2014 to 2015. Earlier in his career, he was a Vice President on NYSE's legal team, and held front-office, supervision, and compliance roles at Barclays Capital and UBS Securities.



Justin Slaughter

Paradigm | VP of Regulatory Affairs

Justin Slaughter is the VP of Regulatory Affairs at Paradigm. Prior to joining Paradigm, Justin was Director of the office of Legislative and Intergovernmental Affairs and Senior Advisor to Acting Securities and Exchange Commission Chair Allison Herren Lee. Justin has also served as Chief Policy Advisor and Special Counsel to former Commissioner Sharon Bowen at the Commodity Futures Trading Commission and General Counsel to Senator Edward J. Markey. Justin has also served as a consultant in private practice focusing on fintech and smaller technology companies, and he began his career as a law clerk to Judge Jerome Farris on the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit. Justin has a B.A. from Columbia University and a J.D. from Yale Law School.



Yvette D. Valdez

Latham & Watkins, LLP | Partner

Yvette Valdez co-chairs the Global Digital Assets & Web3 Practice, as well as the Commodities and Derivatives Regulation & Enforcement Practice.

Yvette draws on more than two decades of derivatives regulatory and transactional experience to inform her cutting-edge advice to clients on digital assets, Web3, and bespoke financial regulatory matters. She advises a broad spectrum of clients, from leading global investment banks and broker-dealers to market makers across financial markets (including the Web3 and digital asset ecosystem). She helps clients navigate a range of high-stakes matters involving: cryptocurrency custodian and prime brokerage businesses, crypto derivatives and spot trading, structuring complex digital assets, tokenization of real-world assets, among others.



John Zecca

NASDAQ | Executive Vice President and Global Chief Legal, Risk and Regulatory Officer

As Executive Vice President and Global Chief Legal, Risk and Regulatory Officer, John Zecca is responsible for providing legal counsel to senior management and for overseeing the quality of legal services across the global organization. John is also responsible for developing, reviewing and maintaining Nasdaq's global risk program, as well as market regulation and the Office of Corporate Secretary. John's career spans market regulation, corporate law, corporate governance and market structure.

Prior to joining Nasdaq in 2001, John served as legal counsel to a commissioner of the Securities and Exchange Commission and practiced corporate securities law at both Hogan Lovells and Kaye Scholer.



Lucas West

SIFMA | Executive Vice President, Head of Advocacy

Mr. West is Executive Vice President and Head of Advocacy for SIFMA.

Previously, Mr. West was Managing Director of Advocacy. Before joining SIFMA, Mr. West worked for U.S. Representative Blaine Luetkemeyer (R-MO) for nearly a decade. Most recently, he served as the Congressman's Senior Policy Advisor, leading the Missourian's efforts on the House Financial Services Committee, and as the Chairman of the HFSC Subcommittee on National Security, Illicit Finance, and International Financial Institutions. During his time on the hill, Mr. West was closely involved with the SAFE Banking Act, the passage of the Corporate Transparency Act, CARES Act provisions related to financial services, data security legislation, and he also served on the House Small Business Committee, where he worked on the Paycheck Protection Program.