

## Katherine Doty Hanniford

Partner

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Kate Hanniford is a partner on Alston & Bird's Technology and Privacy, Cyber & Data Strategy teams. She focuses her practice on cybersecurity and privacy compliance and enforcement. Kate has provided advice on a range of cybersecurity topics, including compliance with various cybersecurity standards, managing cyber risk at all levels of the enterprise, cybersecurity governance, and responding appropriately to security incidents. She also actively monitors cybersecurity-related legislative and regulatory developments at the state and federal levels to provide advice on potential impacts.

Kate also assists securities-industry clients with compliance with SEC and FINRA rules and standards, including SEC (OCIE) examination preparation and enforcement matters as well as Reg SCI and cybersecurity preparedness. She is well-versed in the scale and complexity of incident response in highly regulated industries, having handled incident response for public issuer, broker-dealer, and investment adviser data security and privacy incidents as well as some of the largest health care breaches in recent years. *The Best Lawyers in America*® regularly recognizes Kate on its "Ones to Watch" list in the area of Technology Law.

### **Representative Experience**

#### **Cybersecurity**

- Advised multiple Fortune 500 and 1000 companies during complex, privileged computer crime investigations requiring a crisis response and legal analysis under state, federal, and international laws. Specific engagements included multinational data breaches, cyber-enabled fraud, business email compromise, and ransomware.
- Advised multiple SEC-registered investment advisers, broker-dealers, and public companies on their cybersecurity policies and procedures, including their incident response plans. Conducted tabletop exercises of clients' incident response plans.
- Represented multiple health care clients involved in ransomware attacks, requiring complex forensic investigation and extensive data review and restoration processes, as well as in follow-on regulatory inquiries.
- Provided ongoing analysis and advice to a global logistics and supply chain management company on privacy and security incident response.
- Assisted health care plans and insurance companies in their incident response efforts and follow-on federal and state regulatory investigations.
- Advised an insurance broker and risk management firm with multiple affiliates and covered entities in the development and implementation of its cybersecurity program in compliance with the New York Department of Financial Services cybersecurity requirements.
- Advised a major retailer in developing a comprehensive information security program for all levels of the enterprise.

- Advised a systemically important financial market utility on a range of corporate governance, regulatory compliance, and examination matters.
- Advised a broker-dealer and electronic trading platform's crisis management and response team as lead outside counsel.

## **Publications & Presentations**

### **Publications**

- "FTC Revises the Safeguards Rule and Proposes Mandatory Reporting of Cybersecurity Events," *Westlaw Today*, November 15, 2021.
- "Top 7 Issues All General Counsel Need to Know About Ransomware," *The Computer & Internet Lawyer*, Vol. 38, No. 9, October 2021.
- "Managing a Cyber Crisis: 7 Practical Tips to Recover with Strength," *Cybersecurity Law & Strategy*, March 4, 2021.
- "Insight: SEC Expects Key Safety Steps for Remote Workforce," *Bloomberg Law*, September 14, 2020.
- "Tips for Broker-Dealers to Avoid Scams during COVID-19," *Law360*, June 10, 2020.
- "As Pandemic Triggers Continuity Plans, What RIAs and BDs Should Ask Themselves," *Financial Planning*, April 13, 2020.
- "Insight: SEC 2020 Compliance, Examination Priorities Aim at IT Security, FinTech Industry," *Bloomberg Law*, February 7, 2020.
- "Calif. Privacy Law Compliance Strategy for In-House Counsel," *Law360*, December 19, 2019.
- "FINRA Exams Show Greater Cybersecurity, Comms Focus," *Law360*, November 7, 2019.
- "INSIGHT: Your Data in the Hands of a 'Fourth Party': Cybersecurity Considerations in Discovery," *Bloomberg Law*, September 21, 2018.
- *The SEC, DOJ, and Investment Advisers: The Examination and Enforcement Regime*, Securities Practice Portfolio Series No. 283, Bloomberg BNA, 2014–2017.

### **Presentations**

- "Do We Pay the Ransom," Levick, podcast, June 21, 2021.
- "Mandates Beyond the Advisers Act: Data Protection: Privacy, Identity Theft and Cybersecurity," National Regulatory Services and Investment Adviser Association, webinar, April 8, 2021.
- "Data Protection: Privacy, Identity Theft, and Cybersecurity," Investment Adviser Association, webinar, April 9, 2020.
- "Preparing, Responding, and Recovering from a Cyber Incident: Tools and Techniques," Knowledge Group, webinar, March 3, 2020.

## **Professional & Community Engagement**

- Certified Information Privacy Professional (CIPP-US)

### **Education**

- University of Texas (J.D., 2009)
- Swarthmore College (B.A., 2000)

## *Admitted to Practice*

- New York
- District of Columbia

## *Related Services*

Crisis & Data Breach Response | Privacy, Cyber & Data Strategy | Litigation