DiligenceVault

ODD During Quarantine

22ND APRIL 2020

WEBINAR TAKEAWAYS

ODD DURING QUARANTINE SIX KEY TAKEAWAYS

EXPERT SPEAKERS



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ASSET MANAGERS & ODD TEAMS WORKING REMOTELY

- Managers well prepared, especially due to guidance from ODD professionals. No difference in preparedness between DM and EM managers or service providers in EM jurisdictions
- Internet security hardening is key upgrading routers, etc.; ethernet preferable to WiFi
- Psychological aspects novel for all BCP contemplated shorter duration events and not 100% remote staff
- Safety of mass transit will determine ability of staff to return to offices in cities like New York and London



ODD ACTIVITY VOLUMES

Initial slowdown in new reviews and procuring documents

- Private market fund closes pushed back four to six weeks
- All activity picking up, despite differing opinions on virtual ODD



EXISTING VS. NEW INVESTMENTS

Existing investment monitoring will continue to be virtual

 LPs have to weigh the risk of inaction / staying in suboptimal investment vs. virtual diligence

 Risk profile, fiduciary mandates and priorities are unique to each investor; no one single biggest risk, all investors have different risk tolerances and circumstances

TRANSPARENCY IMPLICATIONS

- Managers are hesitant to share regulatory letters or certain policies digitally; NDAs can give managers comfort to share documents and information
- Managers are leveraging screenshare of documents or enabling limited time VDR access
- Video calls (also encrypted) are preferable, managers are giving more time for calls



RISK MITIGATION STRATEGIES

- Bad actor clauses with an extraordinary liquidity right can give comfort if no onsite
- Consider closer monitoring of asset classes under extreme duress with respect to valuations and fees (liquid markets) for potential operational risks
- Health and safety considerations going forward could lead to ODD meetings outdoors to limit exposure to all employees as the industry gradually returns to work!



TRENDS

- Managers are being more accommodative to diligence requests
- BCP programs will be adjusted, and documentation will trail implementation
- Declining cost of ODD as travel is eliminated
- Private markets ODD is still in its infancy compared to liquid markets ODD.
- Private markets staff has traditionally been more off-site, lower volume of activity. Liquid markets higher volume of activity, more operations and tech/servers on premises

Contact DiligenceVault:



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