Buchalter Rehires Anthony Callobre as Commercial Finance Partner in LA

Buchalter has just announced the return of Anthony Callobre as a Commercial Finance Partner in its Los Angeles office. He was previously a Partner at Blank Rome.

Perkins Coie Expands Regulatory Expertise with Ted Dowd

Perkins Coie Expands Regulatory Depth with Addition of Former Acting OCC Chief Counsel Ted Dowd

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Metaplanet Secures ¥2 Billion Loan to Expand Bitcoin Holdings

Tokyo, Japan – Japanese hotel developer and bitcoin treasury firm Metaplanet has announced plans to borrow ¥2 billion ($13.5 million) to increase its bitcoin (BTC) holdings.

Metaplanet holds 2,888 BTC and has implemented a long-term acquisition strategy to accumulate 21,000 BTC by 2026. The firm claims it holds more bitcoin than any publicly traded Asian company.

Before adopting its bitcoin-focused investment strategy in 2024, Metaplanet experienced six consecutive years of financial losses. However, the company has since turned profitable, emerging as one of the best-performing equities in 2023.

CEO Simon Gerovich reaffirmed the company's commitment to increasing its BTC holdings, stating that Metaplanet will be "buying the dip."

This latest move underscores Metaplanet's confidence in Bitcoin as a long-term asset and reflects a growing trend of corporate investments in cryptocurrency.

Bitcoin Surges 20% Following Inclusion in U.S. Strategic Reserve

On Monday, Bitcoin's value experienced a significant surge, increasing by over 20% from its previous lows. This rise follows U.S. President Donald Trump's announcement that Bitcoin and other cryptocurrencies will be included in a new U.S. strategic reserve.

In a Sunday Truth Social post, President Trump stated that his January executive order on digital assets would establish a stockpile comprising Bitcoin, Ether, XRP, Solana, and Cardano.

This marks the first public disclosure of the specific cryptocurrencies to be included. Trump emphasized that Bitcoin and Ether would be central to this reserve.

The announcement led to a notable market reaction. Bitcoin rose from $78,273 on Friday to approximately $94,154 on Monday. Ether increased by 20% over the weekend, reaching $2,482. XRP surged by 38%. Solana climbed to 20% and Cardano jumped 78%.

Chris Weston, head of research at Australian online broker Pepperstone, commented that Trump's disclosure provided a positive shock to the crypto market, offering a much-needed catalyst to counter recent bearish trends.
However, some analysts urge caution. Tony Sycamore, a market analyst at IG, noted that while the announcement has boosted prices, concerns remain about the funding sources for cryptocurrency purchases. The bullish impact might be limited if the reserve is funded through seized cryptocurrencies rather than new market purchases.

This development has reinvigorated a market experiencing declines due to unmet expectations regarding regulatory changes. The upcoming White House Crypto Summit, scheduled for Friday, is anticipated to influence market sentiment further.

Elon Musk Proposes $5,000 'DOGE Dividend' Checks for Taxpayers

Billionaire entrepreneur Elon Musk has suggested distributing "DOGE dividend" checks to American taxpayers, aiming to return

20% of the savings achieved by the Department of Government Efficiency (DOGE) back to the public. Initially put forward by Azoria CEO James Fishback, this proposal could provide approximately $5,000 to each of the 78 million households that pay federal income taxes, contingent upon Musk’s ambitious goal of reducing government spending by $2 trillion.
Politico

However, implementing such a rebate program would require congressional approval, and budget experts caution that lawmakers might prefer to allocate the funds toward reducing the national debt or extending existing tax provisions. Additionally, the legality of DOGE is currently under judicial review, adding another layer of complexity to the proposal.
Politico

Musk, who President Donald Trump appointed to co-lead the Department of Government Efficiency alongside Vivek Ramaswamy, aims to streamline federal operations and cut wasteful expenditures. The department, operating outside the formal government structure, seeks to achieve significant structural reforms by July 4, 2026.
Reuters

While the idea of government-issued checks is not new—similar stimulus payments were distributed during Trump’s first term—the feasibility of funding such rebates through anticipated government savings remains uncertain. The proposal’s success hinges on achieving the projected $2 trillion savings and obtaining the necessary legislative approvals.

SEC takes shots at meme stocks, retail trading, and crypto bros in a PSA. Reddit responds that it’s victim blaming

FinanceThe Securities and Exchange Commission just revealed that it thinks meme stocks are a joke—and took some shots at crypto bros while it was at it. Retail trading communities

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SEC v. Ripple: Hinman Docs Become Focus of New Conference

FinanceMagistrate Judge Sarah Netburn has scheduled a new conference between the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission and Ripple lawyers to discuss renewed assertions of attorney-client privilege…

WEF 2022: Ripple CEO reveals

he visited SEC several times before lawsuit struck

FinanceCentral Payment Co. has agreed to an $84 million settlement resolving claims it misrepresented and improperly added fees for its card-processing services. The class is made up of current

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What are Governance Tokens? How Token Owners Shape a DAO’s Direction

FinanceBlockchain technology has opened up a world of new possibilities. From decentralized finance (DeFi) to digital scarcity and ownership through NFTs, there’s been an explosion…

Climate Plan Puts SEC in Rare Role as Accounting Rule-Writer

FinanceThe U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission’s landmark climate change proposal thrusts the Wall Street regulator into a role it usually takes pains to avoid: setting accounting

rules…

2021 Antitrust Year in Review

FinanceWilson Sonsini Goodrich & Rosati is pleased to present its 2021 Antitrust Year in Review. This report summarizes the most significant antitrust matters and developments of the past year

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The Pandemic Drove Up Compliance Costs; Here’s How To Get Back On Track

FinanceThe Covid-19 pandemic’s impact on the economy is far from over. Ripple effects spread far beyond the typical business’s bottom line

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Five Trends Shaping Governance, Risk and

Compliance

NewsAs a result of the pandemic, businesses have been forced to rethink their operational resilience – especially when you consider 2020 was a record year for data breaches

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Swiss Bank Julius Baer Agrees to Pay $79M Settlement for Role In FIFA Corruption Scandal

News“A Swiss bank implicated in FIFA corruption investigations said Monday it has agreed to a settlement in principle with the US Department of Justice and set aside $79.7 million to pay expected fines.

DOJ Sues to Block Visa Acquisition of Fintech Startup Plaid

NewsThe federal government is suing to block Visa’s $5.3 billion acquisition of fintech startup Plaid, alleging the merger violates antitrust laws.

Coral Gables Attorney Accused of Multiple Bank Robberies

NewsA South Florida lawyer has been arrested for his involvement in at least five robberies or attempted robberies of local banks, FBI officials said Wednesday.

Attorney Prominent in the Crowdfunding Sector is Target of SEC Enforcement Action

NewsThe Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) issued a litigation release today alleging charges of microcap fraud that involved an attorney prominent in the US crowdfunding sector.

DOJ Reached $46M Settlement with 5Dimes for Illegal

Sports Betting

News5Dimes and the U.S. Department of Justice reached a $46.8 million settlement of an investigation into illegal US sports betting operations, as well as money laundering and wire fraud.

South Florida Lawyer Charged with Fraud Related to 1 Global Capital Investment Scheme

NewsA Florida attorney and former outside counsel for 1 Global Capital LLC (1 Global), has been charged today with conspiring to commit wire fraud and securities fraud in connection with an investment fraud scheme that, as alleged, impacted more than 3,600 investors in 42 different states, and involved him personally and fraudulently raising more than $100 million from investors.

JPMorgan to Pay a Record $1B to Settle Market-Manipulation

Charges

NewsJPMorgan is set to pay nearly $1 billion to settle with US authorities investigating whether the bank manipulated the metals and Treasury markets.