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NEWS & INSIGHTS

LIGHTFOOT WHITE-COLLAR DEFENSE LAWYERS PUBLISH BIRMINGHAM BUSINESS JOURNAL ARTICLE ABOUT CARES ACT COMPLIANCE

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Lightfoot, Franklin & White, LLC partners **Jackson R. Sharman III**, **Jeffrey P. Doss** and **Brandon K. Essig** recently authored a guest article for the *Birmingham Business Journal*.

The article, titled "**SIGTARP's child: Coronavirus, CARES and compliance**," explains risk mitigation and compliance best practices for companies accepting stimulus money as part of the coronavirus relief package.

"With a price tag of about $2 trillion, many of the implications of this extraordinary legislation will not be known for years to come," wrote the authors. "One implication, however, seems certain: In the months and years ahead, we will see regulatory, civil and criminal enforcement relating to the CARES Act on a scale unseen since shortly after the recession of 2007-2009."

Sharman, Doss and Essig discuss how these companies can prepare for audits, investigations and enforcement activities.

Sharman has practiced law for nearly 30 years and leads Lightfoot's **White-Collar Criminal Defense and Corporate Investigations** practice. He defends businesses and individuals in civil and criminal white-collar cases, provides guidance during corporate internal investigations and advises clients on how to stay in compliance with the law. He served as special counsel to the House Financial Services Committee for the Whitewater investigation involving President Bill Clinton, and he was special counsel to the Judiciary Committee of the Alabama House of Representatives for the impeachment investigation of Gov. Robert Bentley.

Doss focuses his practice on trial advocacy in the areas of white-collar criminal defense and complex civil litigation. In addition to conducting internal investigations for private and public entities, he has defended businesses and individuals in connection with grand jury investigations, administrative enforcement proceedings and criminal prosecutions at the trial and appellate levels.

Essig focuses his practice on white-collar criminal defense, corporate investigations, NCAA compliance and investigations, and general litigation. He joined Lightfoot after nearly eight years as a federal prosecutor for the Department of Justice in the Middle District of Alabama where he tried multiple felony jury trials each year. Prior to his time at the DOJ, Essig was a Captain in the U.S. Marine Corps where he worked as a prosecutor and deployed with an infantry unit to Fallujah, Iraq.