

Securities Regulation Daily Wrap Up, INDUSTRY NEWS—Chairman Behnam appoints CFTC’s first ever Chief Diversity Officer, (Jan. 12, 2022)

Securities Regulation Daily Wrap Up

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By [Brad Rosen, J.D.](#)

Tanisha Cole Edmonds brings a wealth of experience to the Commodity Futures Trading Commission as the agency looks to make progress on its diversity, equity, inclusion, and accessibility record.

The Commodity Futures Trading Commission has named [Tanisha Code Edmonds](#) as its first chief diversity officer. Edmonds comes to the CFTC from the U.S. Department of Interior where she served as its deputy director and deputy chief diversity officer.

At the Commission, Edmonds will provide leadership and executive direction on the CFTC's efforts to integrate and promote diversity, equity, inclusion and accessibility (DEIA) at all levels of the agency's workforce, and its talent and business operations, as well as overseeing the Office of Minority and Women Inclusion. She will also advise Chairman Rostin Behnam's office on how the CFTC can better fulfill and build upon the CFTC's Equal Opportunity Employer & Diversity Statement to support the recruitment and maintenance of a truly diverse CFTC workforce.

In welcoming Edmonds to the CFTC, [Chair Behnam had this to say](#): “[H]iring data shows the CFTC continues to fall short on this critical commitment, specifically when it comes to management level job opportunities. This may be undermining the success of the agency and its individual employees, and it needs to change.”

During his recent Senate confirmation hearing in October 2021, Sen. Sherrod Brown (D-Ohio) queried Behnam about what has been done about improving diversity in the CFTC. In response, Behnam acknowledged that the agency was behind on diversity, but was looking to expand our hiring pool to represent a fuller picture of America. With the appointment of Edmonds, it appears that Chairman Behnam is serious about moving forward on that commitment.

Edmonds holds a B.A. in Economics from Washington University in St. Louis and a J.D. from Washington University's School of Law.

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