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Mr. James H. Freis, Jr. works as Counsel at the international banking and financial institutions practice of Cleary Gottlieb Steen & Hamilton LLP. Mr. Freis is an expert in the development and enforcement of regulations combating financial crimes. He has over 10 years of experience working with the Federal Reserve Bank of New York and the U.S. Department of Treasury in financial regulatory and enforcement matters.

Mr. Freis led the development and enforcement of regulations combating money laundering, terrorist financing, fraud, and other financial crimes as Director of FinCEN from 2007 to 2012. During his tenure, Mr. Freis also supported U.S. Department of Justice and other federal and state law enforcement investigations and prosecutions related to financial crimes domestically as well as globally through FinCEN's role as the country's financial intelligence unit (FIU).

Prior to his appointment, Mr. Freis served as Deputy Assistant General Counsel at Treasury, where he provided legal counsel to Treasury's Office of Terrorism and Financial Intelligence, and supervised lawyers to FinCEN and the Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC). Mr. Fries also served as lead negotiator on behalf of the United States in discussions with foreign governments and private parties on sensitive counter-terrorism and national security matters.

Freis received his bachelor's degree from Georgetown University in 1992 and his J.D. from Harvard, graduating with honors at both institutions.