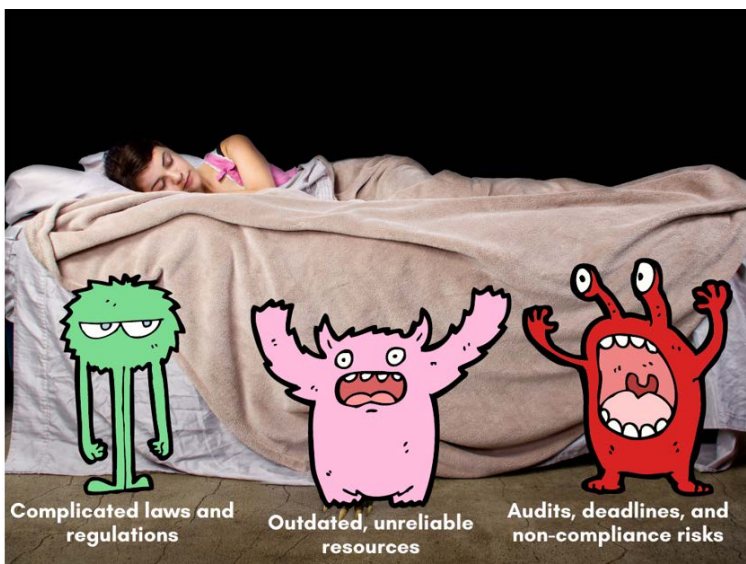




# InfoSight Newsletter

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## Highlights



The monsters under your bed are real.  
With InfoSight, they can be tamed.



## Compliance and Advocacy News & Highlights

### FinCEN Exchange on Ransomware

FinCEN has [announced](#) it will convene a FinCEN Exchange in August 2021 with representatives from financial institutions, other key industry stakeholders, and federal government agencies to discuss ongoing concerns regarding ransomware, as well as efforts by the public and private sectors. The FinCEN Exchange will build upon FinCEN's [November 2020 event](#) on ransomware. FinCEN anticipates that this FinCEN Exchange will assist its government and private sector partners to inform next steps

to address ransomware and focus resources to mitigate the threat. This announcement is part of a government-wide effort to combat ransomware.

According to FinCEN, ransomware attacks are a growing concern for the financial sector, given that financial institutions can be targeted by ransomware attacks as well as reputational and financial integrity concerns about the role financial institutions might play in the processing of ransom payments. Efforts to detect and report ransomware payments are vital to prevent and deter ransomware attacks, and to hold these attackers accountable for their crimes. In October 2020, FinCEN issued [Advisory FIN-2020-A006](#) to alert financial institutions to predominant trends, typologies, and potential indicators of ransomware and associated money laundering activities. In addition, in June 2021, FinCEN highlighted ransomware as a particularly acute cybercrime concern in its issuance of the first government-wide priorities for anti-money laundering and countering the financing of terrorism policy.

*Source: FinCEN*

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## FHFA Cancels Adverse Market Refinance Fee

The Federal Housing Finance Agency has [announced](#) that Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac will eliminate their controversial Adverse Market Refinance Fee for loan deliveries effective August 1, 2021. To allow families to save more money, lenders will no longer be required to pay the Enterprises a 50-basis point fee when they deliver refinanced mortgages. The fee was designed to cover losses projected as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. The success of FHFA and the Enterprises' COVID-19 policies reduced the impact of the pandemic and were effective enough to warrant an early conclusion of the Adverse Market Refinance Fee. FHFA's expectation is that those lenders who were charging borrowers the fee will pass cost savings back to borrowers.

*Source: FHFA*

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## Procedural Notice on PPP Guarantee Purchases and Charge-Offs

The Small Business Administration has issued [Procedural Notice 5000-812316](#), "PPP Guaranty Purchases, Charge-Offs, and Lender Servicing Responsibilities," on how lenders can apply to have SBA purchase and charge off Paycheck Protection Program loans for which the borrower has not applied for forgiveness or made payment on the loan. The notice became effective July 15, 2021.

*Source: SBA*

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## Direct Deposit of Child Tax Credit Has Begun

The IRS and the Treasury [announced](#) recently that millions of American families have started receiving monthly Child Tax Credit payments as direct deposits begin posting in bank accounts and checks arrive in mailboxes.

This first batch of advance monthly payments worth roughly \$15 billion reached about 35 million families yesterday across the country. About 86% were sent by direct deposit.

The payments will continue each month. The IRS urged people who normally aren't required to file a tax return to explore the tools available on IRS.gov. These tools can help determine eligibility for the advance Child Tax Credit or help people file a simplified tax return to sign up for these payments as well as Economic Impact Payments, and other credits they may be eligible to receive.

Under the American Rescue Plan, each payment is up to \$300 per month for each child under age 6 and up to \$250 per month for each child ages 6 through 17. Normally, anyone who receives a payment this month will also receive a payment each month for the rest of 2021 unless they unenroll. Besides the July 15 payment, payment dates are: August 13, September 15, October 15, November 15 and December 15.

You should remember that Treasury regulations require that direct deposits that are not posted because the designated account has been closed must be returned "account closed." Treasury will re-send these payments in check form. The IRS has a [Child Tax Credit Update Portal](#) that can be used by families to check on their enrollment to receive the advance payments, unenroll to stop getting advance payments, and provide or update their bank account information for monthly payments starting with the August 13 payment.

Source: IRS

## *Articles of Interest*

- [Global Women's Leadership Network Focuses on 'Women – You've Got the Power' at Virtual World Credit Union Conference](#)
- [Use Technology to Up Your Value Prop](#)
- [NCUA Issues Agenda for July 22, 2021 Meeting](#)

## *CUNA's Advocacy Resources:*

- [Happenings in Washington](#)

## *WOCCU Advocacy Resources:*

- [Telegraph](#) – the most recent newsletter on current advocacy issues
- [Advocate Blog](#) – International advocacy trends and issues

## Compliance Calendar

- *July 29th, 2021: Reserve Requirements – Regulation D*
- *July 30th, 2021: NCUA – Capitalization of Interest – Loan Workouts and Modifications*
- *August 31st, 2021: CFPB - RESPA Borrower Protections - COVID-19 Emergency*
- *September 6th, 2021: Labor Day - Federal Holiday*
- *October 11th, 2021: Columbus Day - Federal Holiday (also recognized: Indigenous Peoples' Day)*

## Purely Michigan



Red Panda Cubs – Potter Park Zoo (born 7/4/21)

## MCUL Events & Training for 2021!

- [Annual Convention & Exposition](#) Traverse City (Aug. 22-25)
- [Executive Summit, Bay Harbor](#) (Sept. 15-17)
- [Fall Leadership Development Conference](#) Traverse City (Sept. 17-19)
- [Social Media: Advertising, Security and Privacy Webinar](#) (September 21)
- [Virtual Mortgage Loan Originator Workshop](#) (September 22 & 23)
- [Marketing Loans in a Post Virus Economy](#) (October 16)
- [Now Serving! The Journey to Become an Amazing Leader](#) (November 30)

## MI Compliance and Advocacy News

### DIFS Urges Financial Institutions to Protect Customers' Monthly Child Tax Credit Payments from Being Used for Fees, Overdrafts

The Michigan Department of Insurance and Financial Services (DIFS) issued a bulletin July 13 strongly encouraging financial institutions to protect customers' monthly Child Tax Credit payments from being used to satisfy overdrafts or fees.

"These funds are intended to fight childhood poverty and help families recover from the economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, and it is important that our financial institutions ensure those funds are available to be used by families as intended by the law," said DIFS Director Anita Fox. "Michigan's financial institutions have stepped up for the communities they serve throughout the pandemic, and we encourage them to continue to assist their customers with the financial challenges they face."

[Child Tax Credit payments](#) are automatic monthly payments distributed as part of the American Rescue Plan to help families who are raising children. Guidance [issued in the bulletin](#) encourages Michigan financial institutions to treat those deposits in the spirit of the legislation so Michiganders can use the funds on family needs. Institutions are strongly urged not to access customers' Child Tax Credit payments to satisfy overdrafts or for overdraft fees, ATM fees or late payment fees.

As part of Michigan's COVID-19 economic recovery efforts, Michigan's financial institutions continue to support their customers, with more than 230 of them joining the [MiMortgage Relief Partnership extension](#) to help those experiencing financial hardship due to COVID-19 keep their homes. [Participating lenders](#) have agreed to provide mortgage relief and financial protections to impacted homeowners who contact their lenders or mortgage companies by December 31, 2021. Additionally, more than 120 of Michigan's state-chartered banks and credit unions participated in the Paycheck Protection Program to provide forgivable loans to small businesses facing financial hardship due to the pandemic.

DIFS can assist consumers and businesses with questions or disputes that cannot be directly resolved with their financial institutions. Contact DIFS Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. at 877-999-6442, or file a complaint at [Michigan.gov/DIFScomplaints](https://Michigan.gov/DIFScomplaints).

### Attention Compliance Helpline Users!

Transition plans are complete to migrate helpline questions to a SharePoint form system. This change will provide you links to resources that will help with compliance questions, as well as provide MCUL with important data to track trends based on questions submitted. You will receive an email shortly that contains additional information and instructions as well as a SharePoint invitation. The goal will be to fully transition over to this form system as of August 1st. Contact the [Compliance Helpline](#) with questions!

## Strategic Planning Resources Available

Fall will be upon us quickly, and that is traditionally strategic planning season. If COVID derailed formal planning efforts last year, get them back on track for 2022. Over the last year and a half, credit unions have adapted to strategic planning as either a virtual exercise or physically bringing together the Board, management and a facilitator. However a session is structured, the value of strategic planning is always about what is being discussed rather than where it is discussed. CUSG's Advisory Solutions group offers planning facilitators with real world credit union experience as well as a strategic mindset. [Visit our website to learn more.](#)

## Newsletter Sign Up

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