

FedFin Daily Briefing

Wednesday, December 21, 2022

FRBNY Blog: DeFi Addresses Crypto Risks, Tech, Legal Concerns Remain

Addressing the extent to which some of crypto could survive the current calamity, FRB NY staff in a blog <u>post</u> today argue that DeFi could resolve some of the risks apparent in recent crypto collapses if – and only if – technological and legal risks are addressed. Features inherent to DeFi – e.g., self-custody, automated governance controls, and transparent distributed ledgers – address the asset custody, governance, and disclosure failures central to recent collapses. However, smart-contract vulnerability and the lack of legal recourse would remain, leading the post to recommend extensive code testing and audits to mitigate technological risk without solving the legal-recourse challenge.

Recent Files Available for Downloading

The following reports and analyses have been sent to retainer clients recently. Copies are also available to retainer clients on the Archives section of Federal Financial Analytics' website: <u>www.fedfin.com</u> or clients may obtain the reports/analyses by e-mailing <u>info@fedfin.com</u> giving the requested item name, firm, and e-mail address. To learn more about *GSE Activity Reports*, click <u>here</u>.

- CONSUMER47: The CFPB is proposing to create a public registry of certain enforcement actions that would initially cover nonbanks (including BHCs) with a goal of drawing public and enforcement-agency attention to what the Bureau's director calls "serial offenders."
- GSE-122122: Finally taking what was supposed to be an "interim" <u>final rule in 2009</u>, FHFA yesterday finalized a variation on Mark Calabria's 2020 new-product <u>proposal</u>.
- CONSUMER46: In this report, we provide an in-depth assessment of the CFPB's unprecedented \$3.7 billion settlement earlier today with Wells Fargo (WFC).
- FSOC28: <u>As promised</u>, this FedFin report provides an in-depth analysis of FSOC's 2022 <u>annual report</u>, focusing on findings with near-term policy implications.
- GSE-121922: As promised Friday when FSOC's <u>annual report</u> was released, we here go into depth on its implications for residential housing.
- CONSUMER45: Despite early warm goodbyes to outgoing Chairwoman Waters (D-CA), GOP members wasted no time trading blows at a fiery HFSC session today with CFPB Director Chopra.
- <u>CRYPTO36</u>: Senate Banking Committee Chairman Brown (D-OH) today backed away from prior statements about crypto legislation, focusing instead on the prospect of additional investigations into failing crypto firms and ongoing work with Secretary Yellen on a government-wide regulatory framework.
- CLIMATE15: Following the pattern set in 2021 by the OCC, the FRB has now proposed climate riskmanagement standards as high-level principles to guide banking organizations with assets over \$100 billion.
- GSE-120522: Making an important addition to the ongoing debate about Treasury-market liquidity, a new paper from the Bank for International Settlements provides sobering data on agency MBS liquidity

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with significant implications not only for secondary-market liquidity, but also primary-market stability.

- CRYPTO35: In the first Congressional review of crypto since the collapse of FTX, Senate Agriculture leadership largely defended the bill they produced, S.4760.
- <u>CONSUMER44</u>: Reviving what it calls "dormant" authority, the CFPB has finalized a proposed "procedural rule" expressly reiterating its right to govern an array of nonbanks and establishing procedures for making supervisory orders public.