

DO, OR DO NOT



BUILDING A BOND BETWEEN THE CFO AND THE BOARD

A GREAT RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE CFO AND THE BOARD IS A KEY ELEMENT TO THE STRENGTH AND SUCCESS OF A COMPANY. FOLLOW THESE TIPS TO BUILD THAT BOND WITH EASE.



I'M THE CFO

DO

- Actively participate in the board meetings. Don't be afraid to show your stuff!
- Let the audit committee meet your finance team. That synergy will make your job easier.
- Spend some extra time educating the board about the business – those three extra hours a year will be well worth it.
- Have regular, open communications with audit committee chair to avoid last minute “hair-on-fire” situations.
- Determine, with the audit committee chair, who will liaise with the board and compensation committee on risk management and compensation matters.

DON'T

- Take the board minutes. It can distract you from catching important information and take you out of the flow of the meeting.
- Surprise the audit committee or the board – they don't like surprises!
- Run the compensation discussions; you don't want to get in a political squeeze situation.



I'M ON THE BOARD

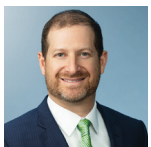
DO

- Be prepared!
- Learn the whos, hows and whys of the business along with the strengths and weaknesses of the finance organization.
- Consult with a seasoned general counsel or outside counsel who has attended lots of board meetings and learn from their experiences.
- Work with the CFO to understand why certain business metrics are tracked and how they are utilized.
- Determine, with the CFO, who will liaise with the board and compensation committee on risk management and compensation matters.

DON'T

- Let antiquated ideas hinder innovation and productive governance and outcomes.
- Underestimate the need for a close relationship between the CFO and the audit committee chair.
- Be afraid to defer to the audit committee chair in a difficult situation – especially one who has a good relationship with the CFO.

CONTACT



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