BELCHER FITZGERALD LLP

COUNSELLORS AT LAW

CLIENT ALERT: Nationwide Injunction on Corporate Transparency Act

By Spencer Bogle and David M. Belcher

BREAKING NEWS: On December 3, 2024, the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Texas issued an order granting a nationwide preliminary injunction enjoining the enforcement of the Corporate Transparency Act in the case *Texas Top Cop Shop, Inc., et al. v. Garland, et al.*, Case No. 4:24-CV-478 (E.D. Tex.). The court concluded that the CTA and its reporting requirements are likely unconstitutional overextensions of Congressional authority.

For the duration of the preliminary injunction, businesses and their owners are not obligated to comply with the CTA's reporting requirements – like filing an initial beneficial ownership information report by January 1, 2025. The government may not require compliance with the CTA, nor may it impose penalties for CTA noncompliance, while the preliminary injunction stands.

Although the federal government has not announced whether it will appeal the preliminary injunction, an appeal is expected. Enforcement could resume if the preliminary injunction is reversed on appeal.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Business owners should consider the following now that the CTA has been enjoined nationwide:

• Businesses that have already filed a

101 FEDERAL STREET, SUITE 705 • BOSTON, MA 02110 PHONE: 617.368.6890 • FAX: 617.368.6891 www.belcherfitzgerald.com

beneficial ownership information report have no obligation to update it to reflect changes that have occurred since the prior filing.

- Businesses that were required to file a beneficial ownership information report before the injunction are not currently obligated to file any report.
- Monitor developments regarding the ultimate disposition of the preliminary injunction and prepare to comply with the CTA should the potential appeal overturn the injunction.
- Educate the beneficial owners of the business about the CTA's reporting requirements to allow the business to quickly file a beneficial ownership report to meet reporting deadlines if the injunction is overturned.

Copyright © 2024 Belcher Fitzgerald LLP. All rights reserved. This publication is not intended as legal advice. Before you make any decision that may have legal implications, you should consult with a qualified legal professional for specific legal advice.

December 2024