

# CHAPMAN

# On-Chain Spotlight

April 7, 2026

## On-Chain in the News

### Regulatory Happenings

---

- **April 2:** Alabama enacted SB 277, becoming the second US state to legally recognize decentralized autonomous organization-like entities and provide members with limited liability protections. The new law establishes a framework for decentralized nonprofit associations using blockchain and smart contracts, and will take effect on October 1, 2026 – read more [here](#).
- **April 2:** Coinbase CLO Paul Grewal expressed optimism that lawmakers are close to a deal on the Clarity Act, whose stablecoin yield provisions have sparked opposition from banks but could soon advance in Congress. The bill is expected to move to a Senate Banking Committee markup in April and faces a critical vote before May – read more [here](#).
- **April 1:** The US Treasury issued proposed regulation under the GENIUS Act, seeking public comment on principles for determining whether state-level regulation of payment stablecoin issuers is substantially similar to the federal framework, with comments due within 60 days of publication – read the release [here](#).
- **April 1:** As the likelihood of digital asset legislation passing in Congress wavers, Tether US executive Jesse Spiro has been appointed chairman of The Fellowship PAC, which will use its \$100 million backing to support pro-crypto candidates in the upcoming US midterm elections – read the press release [here](#).
- **March 31:** The New Hampshire Business Finance Authority is set to issue the first rated bitcoin-backed bond, provisionally graded Ba2 by Moody's, marking a milestone for crypto's integration into public finance – read more [here](#).
- **March 30:** Republican Senators have introduced the "Mined in America Act," a bill aimed at expanding crypto mining's role in the US economy and codifying President Trump's executive order establishing a strategic bitcoin reserve – read more [here](#).
- **March 30:** The US Department of Labor proposed a rule that would allow 401(k) plans to include alternative assets such as cryptocurrencies, private equity, and real estate. If adopted, the rule could open trillions in retirement savings to digital assets – read the proposal [here](#).

### Market Happenings

---

- **April 2:** Drift, a Solana-based DeFi platform, is investigating an active exploit and has suspended deposits and withdrawals, warning users not to deposit funds while coordinating with security firms to contain the incident; over \$250 million was moved from Drift, and the platform's token price dropped sharply – read more [here](#).
- **April 2:** SoFi is launching a business banking platform that enables companies to manage both traditional and crypto assets seamlessly within its regulated bank, aiming to streamline financial operations and reduce reliance on multiple intermediaries – read more [here](#).
- **April 1:** eToro launched crypto asset trading for New York clients with about 20 tokens, plans to add more and introduce staking – read more [here](#).

- **April 1:** OpenEden launched HYBOND, the first tokenized product offering eligible investors 1:1 exposure to BNY Investments' Global Short-Dated High-Yield Bond strategy, expanding tokenized solutions beyond cash-equivalent and government bonds within a regulated framework – read the announcement [here](#).
- **March 31:** Convera announced a partnership with Ripple to deliver crypto-enabled payment and treasury solutions for businesses, leveraging stablecoin and blockchain infrastructure to enable faster, more reliable cross-border payments – read more [here](#).
- **March 30:** Aave launched its v4 upgrade on Ethereum after two years of development, introducing a new system that separates lending markets while sharing liquidity. The upgrade aims to expand DeFi into real-world assets and institutional lending – read more [here](#).
- **March 30:** Square has begun auto-enabling bitcoin payments for millions of US businesses, instantly converting BTC transactions to dollars at checkout with no processing fees through 2026. This marks a significant step toward embedding bitcoin in everyday commerce – read more [here](#).
- **March 29:** BNP Paribas is expanding its digital asset footprint with six new crypto-linked ETNs, offering regulated, indirect exposure to Bitcoin and Ethereum for retail clients – read more [here](#).
- **March 26:** Coinbase and Better Home & Finance are partnering to allow homebuyers to use their crypto holdings as collateral for down payments, enabling loans against bitcoin or USDC without requiring the sale of assets, while maintaining conventional mortgage protections and expanding access to homeownership – read more [here](#).
- **March 25:** DZ BANK and KfW completed the first issuance of a crypto security under Germany's Electronic Securities Act using a Smart Bond Contract, mapping the entire lifecycle of a digital bond issuance via blockchain – read the announcement [here](#).

## Litigation, Enforcement, and Examinations

---

- **April 2:** The US Attorney's Office for the District of Connecticut recovered over \$600,000 in cryptocurrency from a phishing scam targeting a Ledger hardware wallet user, marking another successful digital asset seizure by federal law enforcement – read more [here](#).
- **April 1:** The US District Court for the Southern District of New York entered a supplemental consent order against Nishad Singh, former FTX head of engineering, imposing \$3.7 million in disgorgement, a five-year trading ban, and an eight-year registration ban, resolving the CFTC's enforcement action against him – read the press release [here](#).
- **March 31:** KuCoin operator Peken Global Ltd. has been permanently barred from serving US users after a federal court approved a CFTC consent order, following a separate DOJ case that resulted in nearly \$297 million in penalties and forfeitures. The order imposes a \$500,000 penalty and requires KuCoin to register as a foreign board of trade to regain US market access – read the order [here](#).
- **March 31:** Federal grand juries have indicted ten executives and employees from four cryptocurrency market-making firms for orchestrating fraudulent schemes to artificially inflate trading volume and prices through wash trading, resulting in arrests, guilty pleas, and over \$1 million in seized cryptocurrency following an undercover FBI and IRS investigation – read more [here](#).

## Sharing Our Insights

---

Chapman attorneys have been focused on the cryptocurrency, digital asset, and blockchain ecosystem for many years, and we have assisted clients in shaping industry understanding and strategy through substantive thought leadership. Our attorneys regularly share their insights at prominent industry forums, translating complex regulatory and market developments into actionable guidance for stakeholders navigating this dynamic space.

## We Are Here to Help

---

We are available at any time to answer questions, discuss scenarios, and provide guidance. Reach out to any member of our Cryptocurrency, Digital Assets, and Blockchain team or the Chapman attorney with whom you work.



This document has been prepared by Chapman and Cutler LLP attorneys for informational purposes only. It is general in nature and based on authorities that are subject to change. It is not intended as legal advice and no attorney-client relationship is created. Accordingly, readers should consult with, and seek the advice of, their own counsel with respect to any individual situation that involves the material contained in this document, the application of such material to their specific circumstances, or any questions relating to their own affairs that may be raised by such material.

To the extent that any part of this summary is interpreted to provide tax advice, (i) no taxpayer may rely upon this summary for the purposes of avoiding penalties, (ii) this summary may be interpreted for tax purposes as being prepared in connection with the promotion of the transactions described, and (iii) taxpayers should consult independent tax advisors.

© 2026 Chapman and Cutler LLP. All rights reserved. Attorney Advertising Material.