

CHAPMAN

On-Chain Spotlight

May 11, 2026

On-Chain in the News

Regulatory Happenings

- **May 5:** At Consensus Miami, CFTC Chair Michael Selig said the agency plans to formalize guidance that non-custodial wallet software developers meeting certain conditions need not register as brokers, while also asserting exclusive CFTC jurisdiction over prediction markets and vowing to keep suing states that try to restrict them – read more [here](#).
- **May 5:** Bank of Italy Deputy Governor Chiara Scotti urged the EU to consider a tokenized extension of SEPA as a complementary strategy to evolve Europe’s existing interoperable payments framework – read the speech [here](#).
- **May 4:** Tetra Digital Group launched CADD, a stablecoin backed 1:1 by Canadian dollars and approved by Alberta Treasury Board and Finance, now live on Base, Ethereum, and Tempo, with Solana integration coming soon – read the announcement [here](#).
- **May 4:** FINRA approved Securitize’s expansion of its broker-dealer operations to underwrite tokenized IPOs and secondary offerings and to custody tokenized securities. This enables regulated atomic settlement between tokenized stocks and stablecoins through its broker-dealer/ATS – read the press release [here](#).
- **May 4:** DTCC announced it will begin “initial, limited” production trades of tokenized real-world assets in July 2026, relying on an SEC no-action [letter](#) authorizing tokenization of certain highly liquid securities on approved blockchains, with a broader service launch planned for October – read the statement [here](#).
- **May 1:** The Federal Reserve published a research note comparing banks’ historical responses to financial innovations (e.g., MMFs and Venmo) with today’s rise of stablecoins, concluding that banks are likely to adapt through new products and digital infrastructure rather than be displaced. The paper suggests stablecoins may reshape how banks attract and retain deposits but also highlights banks’ enduring and evolving role in the digital asset ecosystem – read the paper [here](#).
- **April 30:** The US Senate unanimously voted to ban members and their staff from placing wagers on prediction market platforms, following a resolution led by Senator Bernie Moreno. The new rule, effective immediately, prohibits speculative bets based on political or other event outcomes – read the legislation [here](#).
- **April 30:** Gemini secured CFTC approval for a derivatives clearinghouse license, allowing it to offer regulated derivatives and prediction markets in the US – read the announcement [here](#).
- **April 30:** Coinbase Asset Management is launching CUSHY, a stablecoin credit fund targeting yield from onchain lending and private credit and offering institutional investors tokenized share access via Superstate on Ethereum, Solana, and Base blockchains – read the announcement [here](#).

Market Happenings

- **May 7:** AWS partnered with Coinbase and Stripe to launch managed payment features enabling AI agents to make micropayments using USDC stablecoins. This initiative, powered by protocols like x402, allows AI agents to pay for services and APIs through Coinbase or Stripe wallets – read the press release [here](#).

- **May 7:** Pantera Capital's new State of Tokenization report finds that most of today's \$321 billion in tokenized assets are basic wrappers but predicts far more advanced products will soon reshape capital markets. Featuring the Tokenization Progress Index and tracking nearly 600 assets, the report offers frameworks for assessing maturity and connections across the ecosystem – read the report [here](#).
- **May 7:** Payward, the parent of Kraken, announced it will acquire Reap, a stablecoin card issuing and cross-border payments infrastructure provider, expanding Payward Services into global card issuance, cross-border payments, and stablecoin treasury. The deal is positioned as a “regulated payments layer” that connects card networks, banking rails, and blockchains, broadening Payward's licensing footprint across APAC and the Americas – read the press release [here](#).
- **May 6:** Ripple, JPMorgan (Kinexys), Mastercard, and Ondo Finance completed a cross-border pilot transferring tokenized US Treasuries by combining the XRP Ledger with traditional interbank payment rails. In the test, Ondo processed an on-chain redemption of its OUSG tokenized Treasury product, Mastercard routed instructions via Kinexys, and JPMorgan delivered USD to Ripple's Singapore bank account – read more [here](#).
- **May 6:** Morgan Stanley launched cryptocurrency trading for E*Trade clients, offering 50 basis points pricing as part of a broader strategy to expand into digital assets. The bank aims to bridge TradFi and DeFi, with spot trading, crypto ETFs, and future tokenized equity plans slated to bolster its digital asset offerings – read more [here](#).
- **May 6:** Crypto.com launched Crypto.com Travel, an in-app booking platform built with Bookit that lets users book travel and experiences while earning enhanced, crypto-based rewards, particularly through the Cronos ecosystem token – read the announcement [here](#).
- **May 5:** CME Group plans to launch cash-settled Bitcoin Volatility futures on June 1, pending regulatory approval. The contracts will settle via the CME CF Bitcoin Volatility Index – read the press release [here](#).
- **May 5:** State Street Investment Management and Galaxy Asset Management announced the launch of their SWEEP Fund, a tokenized private liquidity fund designed to enable onchain cash management via stablecoin. Hosted on the Solana blockchain, SWEEP allows investors to deposit stablecoins into a yield-bearing asset, offering continuous access and liquidity – read the announcement [here](#).
- **May 5:** Bullish will acquire transfer agent Equiniti for \$4.2 billion to combine Bullish's tokenization/issuance and trading infrastructure with Equiniti's regulated issuer and shareholder services platform. The deal is pending regulatory approvals and is expected to close in January 2027 – read the press release [here](#).
- **May 5:** Coinbase has made a strategic investment in Centrifuge and designated it as Base's primary tokenization partner to launch and manage compliant tokenized real-world assets – read more [here](#).
- **May 4:** Stablecoin payments startup Rain has become a Mastercard Principal Member, expanding its stablecoin-powered credit and prepaid card programs globally. Rain is also exploring onchain settlement with regulated stablecoins as part of Mastercard's broader stablecoin strategy – read the press release [here](#).
- **May 1:** Payward, the parent of Kraken, announced it has completed its acquisition of Bitnomial, a CFTC-licensed digital asset derivatives company. The deal enables Payward to offer CFTC-regulated spot margin, perpetuals, and options, to eligible US clients on Kraken and NinjaTrader – read more [here](#).
- **May 1:** Tether reported a first-quarter net profit of \$1.04 billion and record excess reserves of \$8.23 billion – read more [here](#).
- **May 1:** MoonPay launched the MoonAgents Card, a stablecoin debit card for AI agents and users that enables spending directly from onchain wallets via the Mastercard network. Issued by Monavate and available initially in the UK and Latin America, the virtual card converts stablecoins to fiat at payment and is designed for real-time, direct merchant transactions – read the announcement [here](#).
- **April 30:** Exponent Finance, a Solana-based yield exchange, has raised a \$5 million seed round led by Multicoins Capital to fund an updated platform launching next month that adds an on-chain interest-rate order book and strategy vaults for broader yield management on Solana – read more [here](#).

Litigation, Enforcement, and Examinations

- **May 5:** Aave asked a federal court to lift a restraining notice that froze \$71 million in ether on Arbitrum after the rsETH exploit, arguing the funds belong to innocent users and not North Korea's judgment creditors linked to the alleged hack – read the filing [here](#).
- **May 4:** SEC has temporarily delayed 24 proposed prediction market ETFs from issuers including Bitwise, Roundhill, and GraniteShares, which are tied to binary political and economic outcomes such as the 2028 election and recession odds, while it reviews their structure and related jurisdictional and insider-trading concerns – read more [here](#).
- **April 29:** New York AG Letitia James reached an Assurance of Discontinuance requiring Uphold to pay over \$5 million to customers harmed by its promotion of Cred's CredEarn yield product, marking New York's first enforcement action against a platform for promoting (rather than issuing) a third-party crypto yield product and imposing new due-diligence requirements – read the story [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.



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