

From: ABA President <abapresident@ABANET.ORG>
To: <ABA-PRESIDENTMESSAGE@MAIL.ABANET.ORG>
Date: 5/27/04 12:33AM
Subject: Gramm-Leach-Bliley Act Notice to ABA Membership

Memorandum to our Members:

As you know, the American Bar Association was successful in its lawsuit challenging the FTC's decision that lawyers are subject to the privacy provisions of the Gramm-Leach-Bliley Act if, as part of their law practice, they provide real estate, tax, estate planning or other financially related legal advice to individuals. The FTC has until July 12 to decide whether to appeal.

In response to the ABA's request, the General Counsel of the FTC has issued a letter, which can be seen at [http://www.abanet.org/poladv/FTC Ltr re GLBA.pdf](http://www.abanet.org/poladv/FTC%20Ltr%20re%20GLBA.pdf), stating that unless and until the district court's decision is reversed, the FTC will not bring enforcement actions against or investigate any practicing lawyer for failing to comply with the privacy provisions of the Act during the period preceding reversal. The ABA asked the FTC for this assurance because many attorneys have requested guidance about their responsibilities in light of the district court's decision.

If you are a practicing attorney who provides any financially related legal services to individual clients, you should read the FTC's letter. While we are all hopeful that the court's decision will stand, the ABA is also seeking Congressional action on this issue. Thank you for your support in this effort. We will continue to post updated information on this situation at <http://www.abanet.org/poladv/glbfactsheet.html>.

President Dennis W. Archer

If you prefer, call us at 800-285-2221 or write to:
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To review our privacy statement, go to http://www.abanet.org/privacy_statement.html.
