



In the wake of several high-profile cases of fraud involving investment advisors and broker-dealers, the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) adopted final amendments to Rule 206(4)-2 (“the Custody Rule”) under the Investment Advisors Act of 1940 in an attempt to provide additional safeguards for client funds or securities in the custody of a registered investment advisor.



RIA Surprise Examinations

The amendments require certain RIAs who have “custody” of client assets (directly or through a related person) to engage an independent public accountant to conduct an annual surprise examination of client assets. Furthermore, if the RIA acts as a qualified custodian for advisory clients or if they have related persons that act as qualified custodians for the RIA’s advisory clients, the SEC requires an internal control report (e.g. SOC 1/SSAE 18, formerly SAS 70).



Industry-Specific Knowledge

What is the value of a CPA who both understands your industry and is aware of current trends and issues affecting it? For The MFA Companies’® investment management customers, it has proven invaluable. Our combination of sophisticated financial, technical and industry expertise has made us the firm of choice for registered investment advisors seeking an efficient, cost-effective solution to meeting their SEC examination requirements, whether it be an annual surprise examination, annual internal control report, or both.



Audit & Assurance Experience

MFA’s solid audit and assurance track record, combined with our extensive internal controls consulting expertise, demonstrates the strength and range of our compliance examination services. The exceptional knowledge base and vast experience amassed over the years has resulted in our ability to consistently offer a responsive, value-driven, hands-on approach. In working with MFA, customers are secure in the knowledge that they are working with truly seasoned professionals with a track record for results.