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Third-Party Legal Opinions Regarding Limited Liability Companies

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Richard A. Tulli

1

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Focus of Presentation

- Third-party closing opinions regarding LLCs, especially Texas LLCs
- Despite developed corporate-opinion language and practice, be aware of, and address, differences regarding LLCs
- Example opinions Paper has commentary and lists of actions to support opinions

2

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LLCs/Corporations — # 1

- Corporate-opinion language and practices fairly developed and standardized
- But LLCs not corporations
 - LLCs governed primarily by contract
 - o LLC statute principally provides "default" terms

3

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LLCs/Corporations — # 2

- Importance for opinion givers:
 - o LLC's agreement or contract terms critical
 - o LLC's governing agreement subject to contract law
 - LLC terms not standard, so terms of different LLCs can very significantly
- Insist on written LLC agreement

4

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Contract Law Applicable to LLCs

- Contract law of LLC's state of formation applies
- Not typically an issue for opinion giver practicing in LLC's state of formation
- But poses issue for opinion giver not practicing in LLC's state of formation

5

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Delaware LLC Opinions by Non-Delaware Lawyer —# 1

- Widespread use of Delaware LLCs
- TriBar Opinion Committee's 2006 Report
 - Delaware contract law addressed in Delaware LLC opinions
 - Non-Delaware lawyer's comfort with Delaware contract law

6





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Also available as part of the eCourse LLCs and Partnerships Laws: Choosing a Jurisdiction and Legal Opinions on LLCs

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