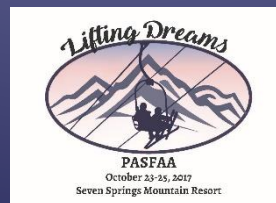


HELPING FIRST IN FAMILY STUDENTS

DEVELOP A COLLEGE
ROADMAP



Agenda

- Value of Higher Education
- What does it mean to be “First in Family”
- Challenges of being the “First in Family”
- Overcoming Challenges
- Timeline, Tools, and Resources

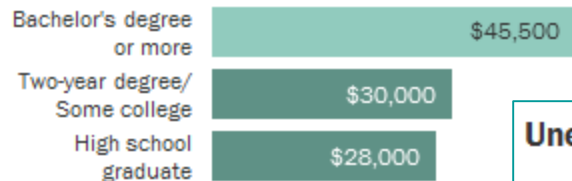


PASEAA
October 23-25, 2017
Seven Springs Mountain Resort

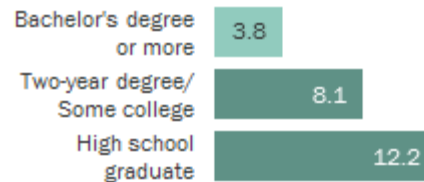
Why is Higher Education Important?

Disparity among Millennials Ages 25-32 By Education Level in Terms of Annual Earnings ...

(median among full-time workers, in 2012 dollars)



Unemployment Rate ...



And Share Living in Poverty ...



Notes: Median annual earnings are based on earnings and work status during the calendar year prior to interview and limited to 25- to 32-year-olds who worked full time during the previous calendar year and reported positive earnings. "Full time" refers to those who usually worked at least 35 hours a week last year. The unemployment rate refers to the share of the labor force (those working or actively seeking work) who are not employed. Poverty is based on the respondent's family income in the calendar year preceding the survey.

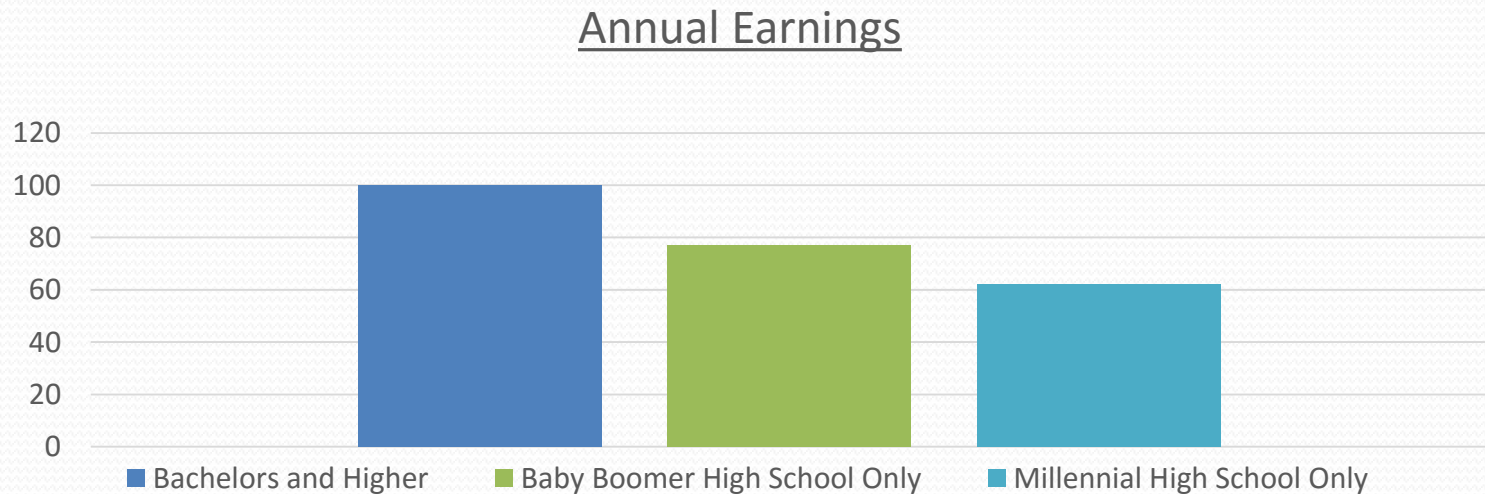
Source: Pew Research Center tabulations of the 2013 March Current Population Survey (CPS) Integrated Public Use Micro Sample

PEW RESEARCH CENTER



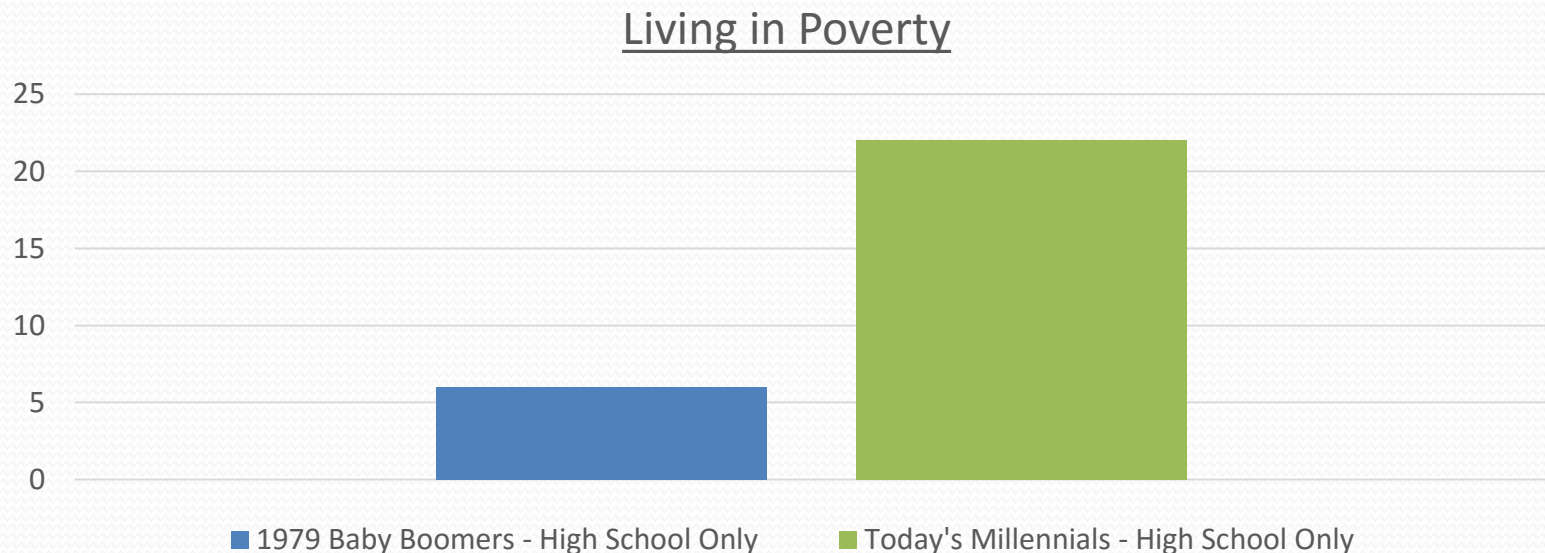
Why is Higher Education Important?

- Young millennial college graduates are outperforming their peers with less education
- The largest and most striking disparities between college graduates and those with less education surface in the Millennial generation:
 - For example, in 1979 when the first wave of Baby Boomers were the same age that Millennials are today, the typical high school graduate earned about three-quarters (77%) of what a college graduate made
 - Today, Millennials with only a high school diploma earn 62% of what the typical college graduate earns

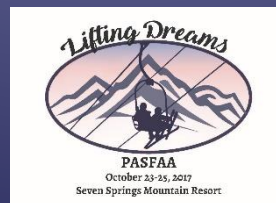


Why is Higher Education Important

- While earnings rose for those with a college degree, earnings fell for high school graduates
 - Among Millennials ages 25 to 32, fully 22% with only a high school diploma are living in poverty, compared with 6% of today's college-educated young adults
 - In contrast, only 7% of Baby Boomers who had only a high school diploma were in poverty in 1979 when they were in their late 20s and early 30s



FIRST IN FAMILY (FIRST GENERATION)

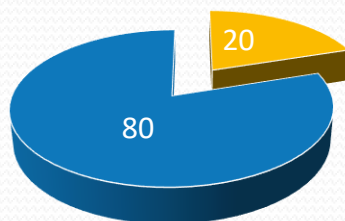


First in Family – What does this mean?

“First in Family” or “First-Generation” college students are students whose parents or caregivers have not earned a four-year degree themselves

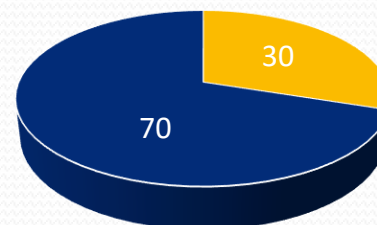
- About 20% of the 7.3 million undergraduate students attending *four-year* public and private colleges and universities are first-generation students
- This increases to approximately 30% for all schools

4-year public and private schools



■ First-Generation

All schools



■ First-Generation

- Approximately 50% of all first-generation college students in the United States are from low-income families.
- The first-generation college student is not necessarily specific to minorities or immigrants.

Information gathered 2/2017: <https://qz.com/418695/the-unique-challenges-of-a-first-generation-college-student/>
<https://research.collegeboard.org/sites/default/files/publications/2013/8/presentation-apac-2013-first-generation-college-aspirations-preparedness-challenges.pdf>
http://www.huffingtonpost.com/dr-ricardo-azziz/why-engaging-more-first-g_b_12417846.html; <http://www.firstgenerationfoundation.org/>

First in Family – Characteristics

First in Family or First Generation College Students share some of the following characteristics:

- Enroll in college at much lower rates than non-First Gen students:

82% of non-First Gen students enrolled in college immediately after finishing high school vs.

54% of students whose parents had completed high school and

36% of students whose parents had less than a high school diploma

- They question themselves and their worthiness
- Many are ill-prepared academically as they come from low income school districts
- Often require significant academic remediation
- Many come from a situation where no one they know has the experience of successfully completing higher education
- The college-bound culture may not exist at their high school
- They don't understand academic expectations
- Students do not understand the admissions and financial aid processes

Information gathered 2/2017: <https://www.theatlantic.com/education/archive/2014/12/the-added-pressure-faced-by-first-generation-students/384139/>; http://www.huffingtonpost.com/dr-ricardo-azziz/why-engaging-more-first-g_b_12417846.html;



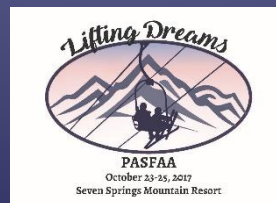
First in Family – Characteristics, cont.

- Work at least part-time while attending college
- May come from lower socioeconomic status
- May come from ethnic-racial minorities
- May come from under-served high schools that lack resources to help students prepare for college
- May live at home with family or relatives or may choose a college that is close to home
- May choose to attend college part-time
- Are twice as likely to drop out of college before their non-first generation counterparts before their second year in college
- Are less likely to socialize with peers at school or take part in student organizations
- Typically carry financial burdens that outweigh those of their non-first generation peers
- Have significantly lower college completion rates

Information gathered 2/2017: <https://qz.com/418695/the-unique-challenges-of-a-first-generation-college-student/>; <https://www.theatlantic.com/education/archive/2014/12/the-added-pressure-faced-by-first-generation-students/384139/>; http://www.huffingtonpost.com/dr-ricardo-azziz/why-engaging-more-first-g_b_12417846.html; <https://thecollegefinanciallady.com/2016/07/13/income-protection-allowance-for-students/>



FAMOUS “FIRSTS”



Famous First Gens

- Viola Davis, Academy Award Nominated Actress
- Colin Powell, 65th US Secretary of State
- Dr. Ben Carson, Neurosurgeon and first physician to successfully separate conjoined twins
- Sonia Sotomayor, Supreme Court Justice
- Howard Schultz, CEO of Starbucks
- Michelle Obama, 44th First Lady of the United States



Famous First Gens

Inspirational Videos

I'm First website that has stories from everyday first generation students:

<http://www.imfirst.org/#stories>

Michele Obama's First Generation Story: <http://www.imfirst.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/08/Im-First-FLOTUS-Video-News-Release-Final-020614.pdf>



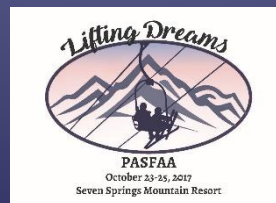
“Neither of my parents graduated from college...But I learned pretty quickly that I had what it took to succeed in college.”

“At first, I even worried that maybe I just wasn't as smart as some of my classmates but soon enough I realized that was all in my head. I was just as smart as everyone else and I had just as much to contribute...No matter where you come from or how much money your family has, I want you to know you can succeed in college and get your degree.”

- First Lady Michelle Obama



CHALLENGES



First in Family - Challenges

Many potential first in family students face additional challenges when they come from families where their parents or caregivers do not have college degrees

Many first-generation students lack the resources and experience of students that have parents with degrees such as

Education

Mentoring

Lack of Funds

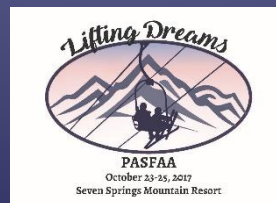
Academic

Psychological

- When to start the college search process and what goals the student should strive to attain to get into their choice of college
- They are more likely to work in a mall in the summer rather than a professional internship and they can't afford to work for free
- Many apply to a single college because they can't afford the costly application fees and many fill out the financial aid forms themselves
- They are more likely to be from low income families and may have more academic needs that may require additional classwork
- Many feel they are leaving their families behind and worry about how to support them
- Those that attend high-caliber institutions lack confidence as the culture is foreign to them



OVERCOMING CHALLENGES



LAFAYETTE

COLLEGE

LOCATED: EASTON, PA
PRIVATE COLLEGE
COEDUCATIONAL COLLEGE

ACADEMIC YEAR: SEMESTER

DEGREES: BACHELOR

16-17 ACADEMIC YEAR: FIRST GENERATION STUDENTS

	Applied	Admitted	Enrolled
All applicable students	8123	2298	649
First-generation Students	1899	222	99
Percentage of Cohort	23%	10%	15%

TOTALS: 2424 FULL-TIME, DEGREE-SEEKING STUDENTS, 329 ARE FIRST-GENERATION



The “Success Team”

Composed of members from the Career Center, Office of Admissions and Office of Advising and Co-Curricular Programs

Pilot program that advises students from Lafayette College signed partnerships

Philadelphia

New York

Connecticut

Dallas

South Texas (coming soon)

There are currently 17 students in the “Success Team” pilot

This is an opt-in program for the students.

Monthly meetings and programming

Themed meetings (homesickness, resumes, etc.), monthly help

Individual monthly check-ins, welcome dinner, study breaks

Success Stories

“A first year student from one of our partnership CBO’s in Philadelphia suffered a concussion playing Rugby in late October. This caused her to miss a week of classes and fall quite far behind. I met with her in early November, and realized that her attempts to catch up were being weighed down by the work in her Calculus class. I encouraged her to meet with the college’s First Year Class Dean and discuss the option of dropping a class. After meeting with Brandon she decided to drop the Calculus class and she will take it again this summer. Because she was able to do this before the drop deadline she was not penalized for withdrawing and was able to also make great progress in her other classes. She finished the semester with a 3.2, and would not have done so had she just kept her head down and tried to bull through.”

“ Often times first generation students are not aware of the resources and options open to them, and this is a prime example of how having someone looking out for this student helped her succeed and has set her up for success at Lafayette College.”

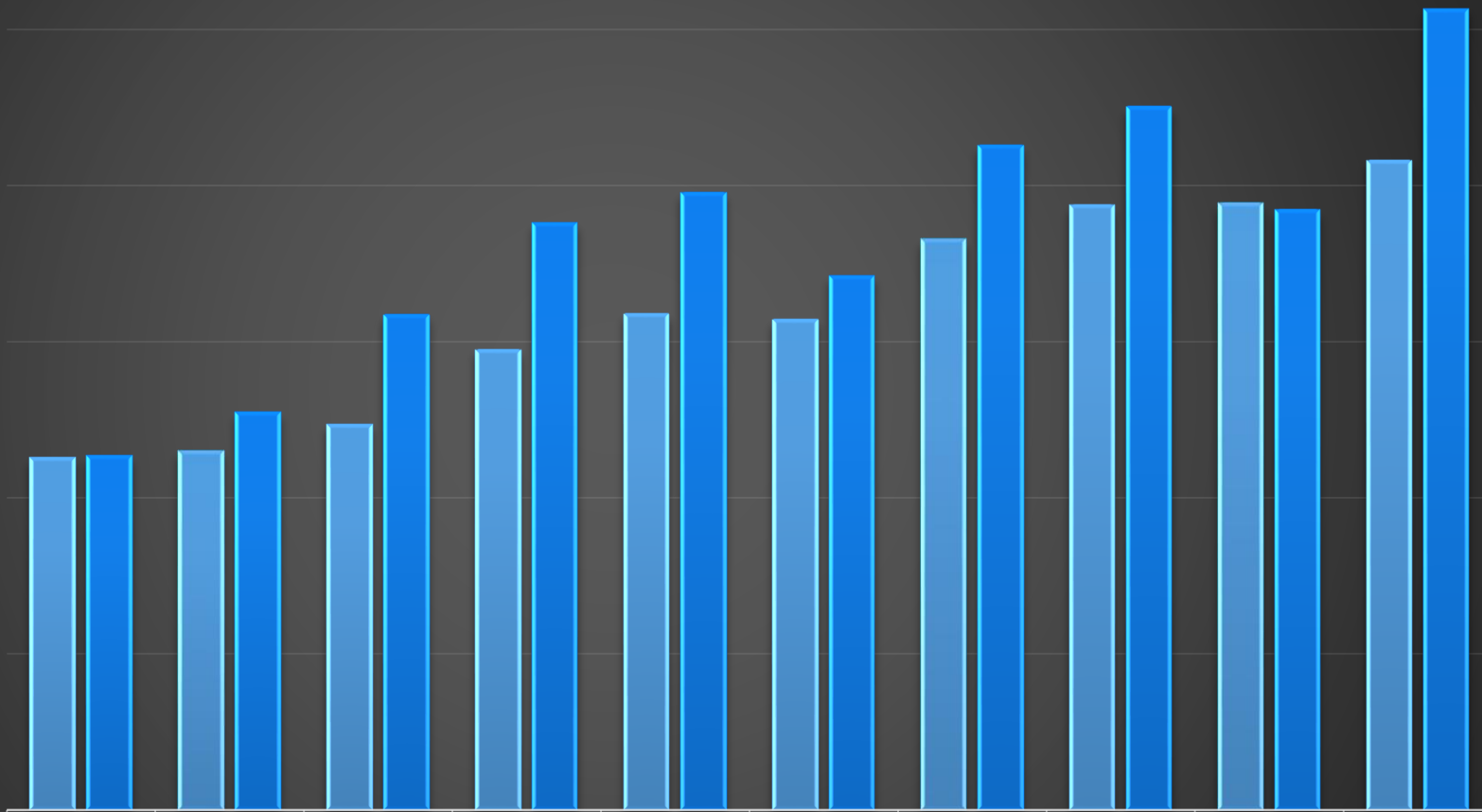
- Ed Bianchi (Success Team)



Located:	Kutztown, PA Public College, PA State System of Higher Education Coeducational College
Academic Year:	Semester
Degrees:	Bachelor, Master's, Doctorate
Enrollment:	8,500 full- and part-time undergraduate and graduate students Most are Pennsylvania residents 29 states and 31 countries are represented 56% women, 44% men

% OF HEADCOUNT ENROLLMENT

30.00%
25.00%
20.00%
15.00%
10.00%
5.00%
0.00%



■ % Minority Enrollment
■ % Minority Cohort

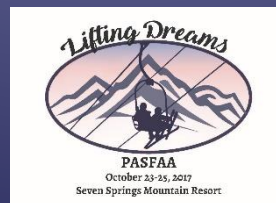
	Fall 2008	Fall 2009	Fall 2010	Fall 2011	Fall 2012	Fall 2013	Fall 2014	Fall 2015	Fall 2016	Fall 2017
% Minority Enrollment	11.30%	11.52%	12.37%	14.76%	15.91%	15.72%	18.29%	19.38%	19.44%	20.82%
% Minority Cohort	11.35%	12.74%	15.87%	18.82%	19.80%	17.11%	21.30%	22.54%	19.22%	25.66%

University Minority Student Enrollment

Academic Initiative for Male Success

- NEW Fall 2017 initiative
- Commitment to helping African American and Latin male students reach their full potential
- Focus on the academic advancement of participants
- Improved support network both on and off-campus
- Development of academic, personal and social skills
- Goal to improve retention and graduate rates

TIMELINES, TOOLS AND RESOURCES



Tips to Create a Positive College Experience

There are many ways for first in family students to get involved to make college easier to navigate and enjoy

Students should be encouraged to:

- ✔ Get Involved!
 - Students should look for an interesting student group that creates a sense of belonging
- ✔ Make friends with other students
 - Finding people with mutual interests can provide much needed support and encouragement
- ✔ Get to know professors
 - Don't be afraid to ask for help
- ✔ Contact the school's Diversity Advocate Office
 - They can help as they provide dedicated support and mentorship to students.
- ✔ Learn about the variety of resources that are available on campus.
 - Typically counseling services, career services, disability services, campus ministry services, sports and other recreational services are available to students
- ✔ *Ask for Help!*
 - Too often first-generation students try to do it alone.
 - Getting help may be perceived as a sign of weakness instead of a sign of strength

College Prep Timeline

Many high-schoolers don't even know this information exists, so prep is vital. Encourage students to think about college early and often—and begin planning their future early

Pre-high school

- Get involved with extracurricular activities
- Enhance study habits
- Sign up for challenging courses
- Take college prep courses

Ninth grade

- Meet with school counselor to understand career/college options
 - Seek advice on choosing right classes
- Research financial aid, especially scholarship opportunities
- Develop summer plans to explore specific skills and interests
 - Colleges seek students who pursue meaningful summer activities

Tenth grade

- Take PSAT/NMSQT or other standardized entrance exams; use prep guides and courses
- Take SAT subject tests
- Select more challenging courses
- Make a list of possible colleges
- Learn as much possible about a school's environment to ensure a good fit
- Save and plan for college: use a 1-2-3 approach

College Prep Timeline

Eleventh grade

- Learn about college costs
- Research financial aid, especially grants and scholarship opportunities
- Take SAT subject tests or ACT or other standardized entrance exams
- Sign up for AP courses
- Take courses that will assist you with preparing for your college major
- Attend college fairs
- Visit colleges of interest over the summer before twelfth grade
- Research next steps—and start making a plan to pay
 - Review college costs (Tuition, Fees, Room and Board)
- Over the summer try to get an internship at a place of interest

Twelfth grade

- Finalize a college list and compare schools
 - Don't rule out schools based upon cost until you receive your financial aid awards
 - Begin college applications early; review application fees—can they be waived?
- Complete the FAFSA a.s.a.p.
- Check deadlines for state and institutional aid
- Complete and submit all paperwork early to maximize financial aid opportunities
- When applying to school - check to see if they can waive the application fee

College Prep Timeline

Most important


Students should not be discouraged if they haven't started planning early. What's most important is that they **go to school!**

Resources

- Understanding the Timeline to Prepare for College
https://www.petersons.com/college-search/~link.aspx?_id=5abbc9101441482587285f78ed859b17&_z=z.aspx
- Internet Research - Its never too early or too late to think about college
- Fee Waivers – Helpful websites
 - <https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/get-in/applying-101/college-application-fee-waivers>
 - <http://www.imfirst.org/2013/01/college-application-fee-waivers/>
 - <https://www.salliemae.com/assets/college-planning/countdown-to-college-checklist.pdf>
- Scholarships
 - 90 active scholarships for first generation students at <https://www.salliemae.com/college-planning/tools/scholarship-search/>
 - <https://www.edvisors.com/scholarships/win-scholarships/free-scholarships/first-generation-college-student-scholarships/>
 - <https://www.scholarships.com/financial-aid/college-scholarships/scholarships-by-type/first-in-family-scholarships/>



Questions?



The information contained in this presentation is not comprehensive, is subject to constant change, and therefore should serve only as general, background information for further investigation and study related to the subject matter and the specific factual circumstances being considered or evaluated. Nothing in this presentation constitutes or is designed to constitute legal advice.

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