



From A to Veck:
Standardization and the Law

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Statutory Protection of SDO Volunteers

Presented by

Creighton R. Magid

Dorsey & Whitney LLP

Statutory Protection of SDO Volunteers

- Volunteer Protection Act of 1997
 - Applies to volunteers serving non-profits
 - Qualified immunity
 - Acts within scope of responsibilities
 - No criminal, grossly negligent, or reckless conduct, or “flagrant indifference”
 - Harm not caused by operation of a vehicle, vessel or aircraft



Statutory Protection of SDO Volunteers

- Volunteer Protection Act of 1997
 - Distinction between negligence and “gross negligence”
 - What is “within the scope”?



Statutory Protection of SDO Volunteers

■ State Statutes

- Apply to volunteers serving non-profits
- Qualified immunity
- Some have liability insurance requirements



Statutory Protection of SDO Volunteers

- Voluntary Consensus Standards Act of 2005
 - No liability of SDO for injuries attributed to standards
 - SDO must have developed standard using
 - ANSI-accredited process for American National Standards (or)
 - OMB Voluntary Consensus Process
 - Liability requires showing that standard was developed by SDO “knowingly and willingly engaged in intentional, bad faith or criminal misconduct”



Statutory Protection of SDO Volunteers

- Belts and Suspenders
 - Volunteer Protection Act of 1997
 - State Volunteer Statutes
 - Indemnification and Insurance

