

Firm Plays Leading Role in Largest **Transaction in US Bond Market in 2020**

March 11, 2020

A firm team has served as co-transaction counsel in the Buckeye Tobacco Settlement Financing Authority's (BTSFA) issuance of US\$5.3 billion of bonds to refund the Authority's outstanding tobacco bonds issued in 2007. The original 2007 bond securitized the tobacco payments to the State of Ohio under the Master Settlement Agreement between the tobacco companies and the 46 settling states and territories.

The transaction was complicated and consisted of multiple series of taxable and tax-exempt bonds with varying call and redemption features over a very short six-week timeframe. The timing lined up perfectly with the market's current recordlow interest rate environment, allowing BTSFA to refund all of the outstanding bonds and save significant amounts of money by lowering the debt service on its bonds.

We served as co-transaction counsel on this financing as well as the original 2007 financing. The team comprised of Allison M. Binkley, Ryan K. Callender, Anthony E. Core, Michael A. Cullers, Cynthia C. Mog, and Ben Tobias.

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