



# Abandoned and Unclaimed Property

## Securities Audits

General ledger property and insurance policies have long been the target of unclaimed property auditors—and the source of large assessments and penalties. However, in recent years, auditors have broadened their scope for publicly traded companies to disclose and escheat property related to their securities offerings in addition to their general ledger records.

The Ryan Abandoned and Unclaimed Property practice has the expertise your company needs to address securities audits and the challenges they pose. Our nationwide team includes former auditors with experience conducting multistate unclaimed property exams, as well as industry-specific experts covering retail, oil and gas, manufacturing, financial services, and other industries that are impacted by this new audit trend.

While it is common for many securities issuers to rely on their transfer agent to manage compliance and record keeping in a securities audit, the issuer is the liable party in the exam and may face several challenges, including:

- Complex document requests seeking potentially sensitive shareholder information
- A review of all acquisitions occurring over the past 20 years
- New state unclaimed property eligibility requirements tied to shareholder contact, which may not reconcile with current practices
- Significant assessments, including penalties and interest
- Negative publicity from turning shareholder assets over to the state

“RYAN PROVIDED VALUABLE INSIGHT AND GUIDANCE THROUGHOUT THE AUDIT PROCESS. THEY LEVERAGED THEIR RELATIONSHIPS WITH THE STATES, AUDITORS, AND TRANSFER AGENTS TO EXPEDITE THE PROCESS AND ENSURE AN ACCURATE OUTCOME FOR OUR COMPANY.”



**Kathryn Murray,**  
Senior Director, Corporate and Securities



### Ryan Abandoned and Unclaimed Property Services

- Quantitative Risk Assessments/ Statistical Sampling
- State Audit Assistance
- Voluntary Disclosures
- Exemption and Deduction Review
- Annual Compliance and Reporting Services
- Due Diligence
- Policies and Procedures

### Award-Winning Tax Services

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