

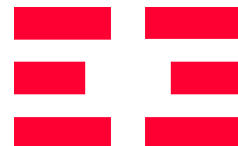


Mesirow Financial Holdings Inc.

Locations: Illinois (HQ)

Industries: Diversified Financials

RISK LEVEL:



High Risk

View this company on 1792 Exchange: <https://1792exchange.com/company/mesirow-financial-holdings-inc/>

DESCRIPTION:

Mesirow Financial Holdings Inc. is High Risk. The company yields to political activism in shaping corporate governance, potentially alienating consumers, dividing employees, and harming shareholders. The company implements race and identity-based policies that replace merit, excellence, and integrity with preferential treatment and outcomes. Mesirow Financial Holdings embraces corporate initiatives that redirect its central focus from business goals to partisan policies and divisive issues. This approach fails to safeguard free exercise, free speech, and free enterprise.

Corporate Weaponization

Has canceled customers, suppliers, or vendors due to their political views or religious beliefs OR corporately boycotts, divests, or sanctions regions, people groups, or industries. Medium Risk

Mesirow received a score of 100 on the 2025 Corporate Equality Index (CEI) from the Human Rights Campaign (HRC), a political stakeholder group. The company recruits employees based on sexual identity issues. The company discriminates against vendors that do not promote divisive sex and gender policies, indicating it prioritizes sexual issues over merit (1)(2). Mesirow is a signatory of the Principles for Responsible Investment, incorporating ESG issues into investment analysis, decision-making, and other business practices (3)(4)(5). However, the company has not canceled customers, suppliers, or vendors based on political views or religious beliefs (6).

Charitable giving (including employee matching programs) policies or practices discriminate against charitable organizations based on views or religious beliefs. High Risk

Mesirow's HRC 2025 CEI rating indicates the company will not donate to non-religious charities unless they embrace controversial sexual identity policies (1)(2). The company does not publish charitable giving guidelines (3).

Employment policies fail to protect against viewpoint or other discrimination and/or are ideological in nature. High Risk

Mesirow's HRC 2025 CEI rating indicates the company forces employees to attend multiple, controversial trainings on gender identity, sexual orientation, transgender issues, and divisive racial ideology. The company provides gender transition guidelines for its employees and a specific benefits guide with a comprehensive explanation of transgender services funded by the company (1)(2). The company requires employees to take unconscious bias and microaggression training. It is also committed to a variety of "DEI programming, events and training for managers and employees" (3). Mesirow does not provide viewpoint protections for its

employees (4).

Corporate Governance and Public Policy

Uses corporate reputation to support causes, organizations, or policies hostile to freedom of expression. High Risk

Mesirow's HRC 2025 CEI rating indicates the company agrees to allow a controversial stakeholder group focused on sexual identity issues to dictate marketing or advertising strategy. By doing so, the company risks dividing employees, alienating customers and harming shareholders (1)(2). Mesirow supports DEI within its business practices, hosting a DEI council (3). The company is a signatory of the Institutional Limited Partners Association's Diversity in Action Initiative, committing itself to specific actions that advance DEI within the governance and policies of the organization and the private equity industry more broadly (4)(5)(6). Mesirow's CEO, Natalie Brown, signed the CEO Action for Diversity & Inclusion pledge, which includes a commitment to promote DEI through bias education training in the workplace, strategize on DEI programs/initiatives with other signatories, and engage boards of directors when developing and evaluating DEI strategies (7)(8).

Uses corporate funds to advance ideological causes, organizations, or policies hostile to freedom of expression. High Risk

Mesirow's HRC 2025 CEI rating indicates the company covers transgender related costs for its employees and their children, including paid short-term leave, puberty blockers, cross-sex hormones, chest surgeries, genital surgeries, medical visits and lab monitoring, travel and lodging. Additionally, the company has pledged philanthropic support of at least one organization or event that promotes sex and gender ideology. By allowing a political stakeholder group to dictate operations, the company increases health care costs and risks dividing employees, alienating customers and harming shareholders (1)(2). Otherwise, there are no publicly known cases of Mesirow using corporate funds to advance ideological causes, organizations, or policies (3).

Uses corporate political actions and/or financial contributions for ideological, non-business purposes. High Risk

Mesirow's HRC 2025 CEI rating indicates the company publicly advocated for controversial sex and gender ideology through local, state or federal legislation or initiatives. By allowing a political stakeholder group to dictate operations, the company risks dividing employees, alienating customers and harming shareholders (1)(2). Mesirow's PAC has been defunct since 1988 (3)(4)(5). The company does not engage in lobbying at this time (6).

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