

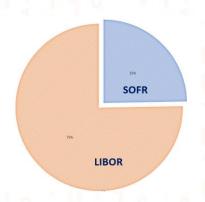
# Eric Donovan

LIBOR Transition: The U.S. Perspective

## **♦ USD LIBOR Transition:** Current State

#### The Good News:

- ➤ SOFR rose to 25% of the floating rate note market in 2019
- ➤ CME SOFR futures ADV and OI grew considerably in 2019 (though still a tiny fraction of the Eurodollar 3M LIBOR futures and options)





#### The Not-So-Good News:

- ► Private SOFR debt issuance = 0
- ► SOFR OTC Derivatives = close to zero (\$300T)
- ► Long Term Yield Curve Does Not Transact

◆ USD LIBOR Fallbacks: The Key to Transition

- ► **Derivatives:** ISDA & CME
- ► Regulated Bank Debt: OCC / FRB / FDIC
- ► Securities (Floating Rate Notes): SEC
- ► Unregulated Contracts
  - \* Equitable Legal Precedent (at least in NY State)
  - \* ICE Benchmark Administration

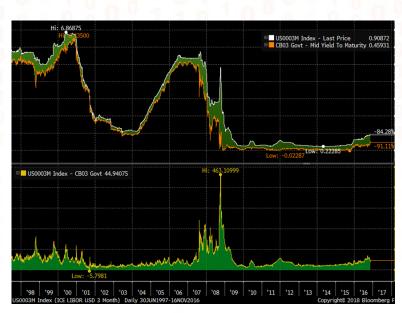
There is a high likelihood of LIBOR settlements continuing well after 2022 in some variation of a pegged settlement process.

### ◆ USD SOFR: The Future Benchmark

- SOFR has deep liquidity
- ► SOFR doesn't "blow out"
- ► It is superior in every way

HOWEVER, there is no long term yield curve and it doesn't seem to be any progress there

Also, banking systems are "sticky", many banks still use PRIME. With no legal mandate or profit incentive, banks will be extremely slow to transition



"TED Spread" 3M LIBOR versus Treasuries

♦ **USD LIBOR Transition:** *Unresolved Questions* 

- ► What economic incentive do banks have?
- ► Will the recent problems with repo rates get resolved?
- ► Will fallbacks make it "too easy"?
- ► The Chicken & the Egg on the forward curve