



# **Non-Profit Collaborative How to Protect your Non-Profit from Fraud and Embezzlement**

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# Disclaimer

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# Today's Agenda

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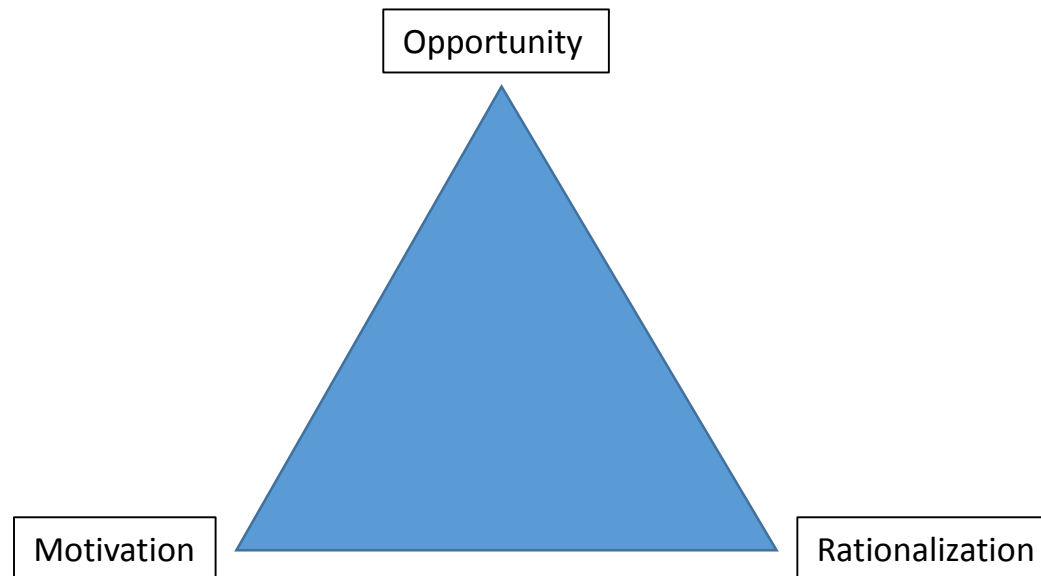
- What is Fraud?
- Internal Threats
- External Threats
- Prevent
- Identify
- Recover
- Conclusion



# What is Fraud?

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Fraud - Wrongful or criminal deception intended to result in financial or personal gain



# 2,690

real cases of  
occupational fraud

from

# 125

countries

in

# 23

industry  
categories

# \$7 BILLION+

IN TOTAL LOSSES

# \$130,000

MEDIAN LOSS PER CASE

# 22%

OF CASES CAUSED  
LOSSES OF

# \$1 MILLION+



Median duration  
of a fraud scheme



# MONTHS

## CORRUPTION

was the most common scheme  
in every global region

**SMALL BUSINESSES  
LOST ALMOST  
TWICE AS MUCH  
PER SCHEME  
TO FRAUD**

# \$104,000

MEDIAN LOSS

100+ EMPLOYEES

# \$200,000

MEDIAN LOSS

<100 EMPLOYEES



# Current Statistics

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- Internal Control weaknesses were responsible for nearly 50% of cases.
- Over 40% of all cases were detected by a tip (more than twice the rate of any other detection method).
- For non profits, the median loss is \$75,000 and is 9% of the total fraud (\$7 billion) reported.
- If fraud is caused by an individual, the median loss is \$74,000, if two people commit the fraud together, the loss increased to \$150,000, and if three or more people work together, the loss increased to \$339,000.
- Most common fraud schemes for non-profits include billings, corruption, expense reimbursements, cash, and payroll.

\*Statistics from the ACFE's Report to the Nations

# Impact of Fraud

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- Financial Losses
- Reputational Impact
  - Loss of Trust of a Funder
- Lower Employee Morale
- Potential lawsuits
  - Personal liability or jail time
- Closing of Non Profit



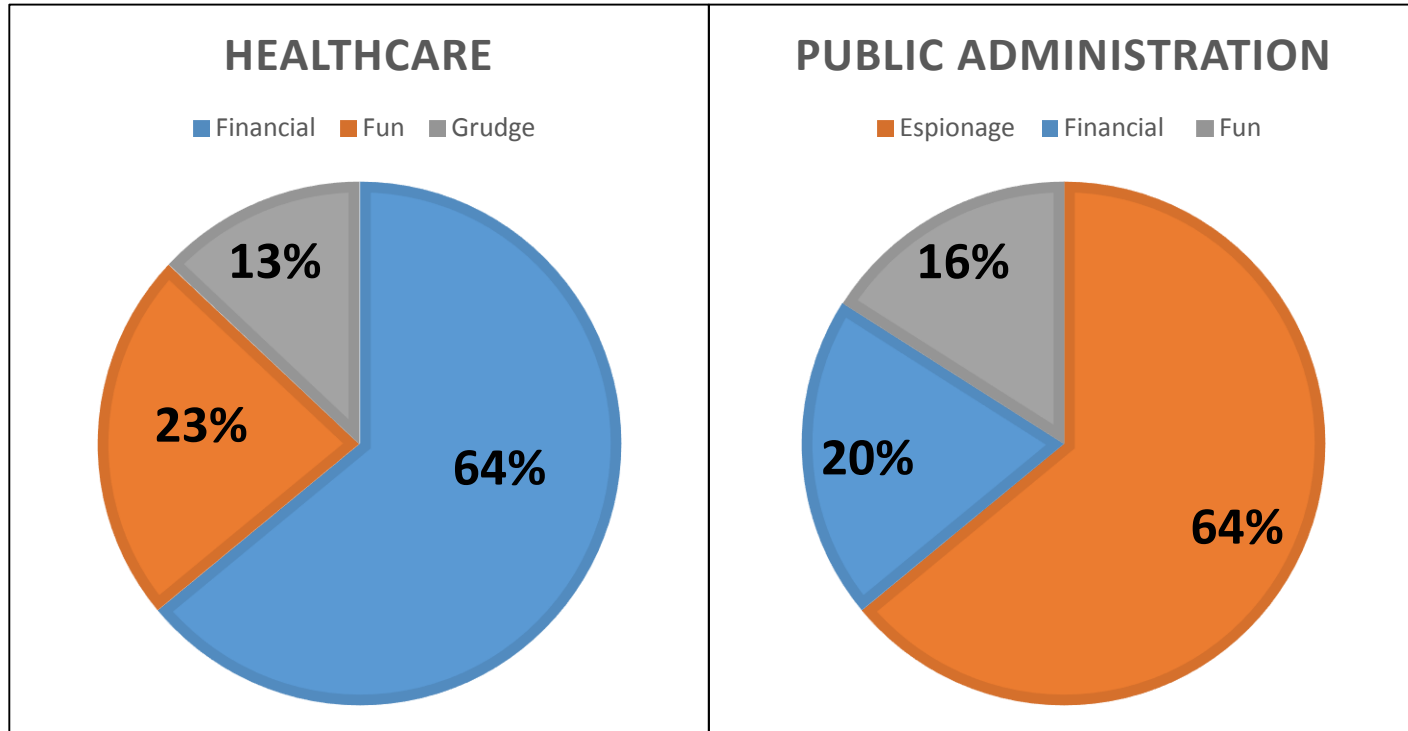
# Types of Fraud

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Internal	External
Accounts Payable/Purchasing	Check Fraud and Petty Cash
Financial Statement Fraud	Corporate Account Takeover
Bribery/Corruption/Kickbacks	Debit Card/Credit Card Fraud
Expense Reimbursements	Third parties
Business Assets for Personal Use	Fictitious employees



# Why Do They Do It?



# Internal Threats

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- Our people and providing the opportunity and motivation
- Poor physical controls
  - Data Centers
  - Negotiable Instruments
  - Access After Hours
  - Alarms
- Granting too much access to confidential information
  - Financial Data (Insider Trading)
  - Unlimited Authorization/User Access Rights
  - Customer and Employee Data
  - Information Databases
  - Trade Secrets



# Internal Threats

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- Social Engineering
- Lack of monitoring
  - Reconciliations of Bank and General Ledger Accts.
    - Unusual amounts
    - Stale dated items
  - User activity
    - Access attempts
    - Hours of access
    - What are they getting into?
  - Financial transactions
  - Unusual variances
  - Expense growth
  - Cash transactions



**DATA MONITORING/ANALYSIS** and **SURPRISE AUDITS** were correlated with the largest reductions in fraud loss and duration

52%

LOWER LOSSES

Data monitoring/  
analysis

58%

FASTER DETECTION

51%

LOWER LOSSES

Surprise  
audits

54%

FASTER DETECTION

Yet only **37%** of victim organizations implemented these controls

**85%**  
OF FRAUDSTERS

DISPLAYED AT LEAST  
ONE BEHAVIORAL

**RED FLAG  
OF FRAUD**

**FRAUDSTERS WHO HAD BEEN  
WITH THEIR COMPANY LONGER  
STOLE TWICE AS MUCH**



MORE THAN 5 YEARS' TENURE

**\$200,000**

MEDIAN LOSS

LESS THAN 5 YEARS' TENURE

**\$100,000**

MEDIAN LOSS

OVER THE PAST 10 YEARS, OCCUPATIONAL FRAUD  
REFERRALS TO PROSECUTION DECLINED 16%



TOP REASON FOR  
NON-REFERRALS WAS  
**FEAR OF BAD  
PUBLICITY**

**-16%**

2008 2009 2010 2011 2012 2013 2014 2015 2016 2017 2018

**ONLY 4%**

OF PERPETRATORS  
HAD A PRIOR

**FRAUD CONVICTION**



A MAJORITY OF THE VICTIMS **RECOVERED NOTHING**

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# Why Do They Do It?

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- Undefined roles and responsibilities
  - Create job descriptions
- Improper tone from the top
  - Create core values and Code of Ethics
- Collaboration amongst employees
  - Circumvention of controls
- Loss of customer data or a data breach
  - Third party access
  - Training and awareness
  - Incident response



# Why Do They Do It?

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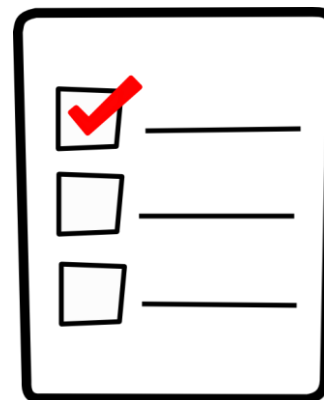
- Lack of understanding of technology
  - System configuration
  - Software limitations
  - Electronic security needs
  - Virus and malware detection
  - Patching
  - Penetration and vulnerability testing
- Convenience is our greatest threat



# External Threats

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- Relationships with third parties
  - Risk rate your vendors
  - What standards should they comply with?
  - Read the fine print in contracts
  - Conduct a Google search of the vendor
  - Perform background checks
  - Collect data
  - Review information security programs



# External Threats

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- Pressure to commit fraud
  - Spouse and family
  - Financial commitments
  - Addictions: drugs, gambling, etc.
- Copy cats that see an opportunity
- Complexities of doing business
  - Understand what data you collect
  - Where is data stored?
  - Who has access to the data?
  - How long is it retained?





# External Threats

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- Loss of a third party
- Loss of utility services, internet, etc.
- Electronic threats
  - Viruses and sleepers
  - Malware
  - Skimming devices
  - Denial of service attacks



# External Threats

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- Customer threats
  - Identity theft
  - Corporate account takeover
  - Stolen cards and checks
  - Social engineering
  - Improperly identifying a customer
- The Internet and Social Media
  - The internet of things
  - This is where it all begins.....



# Preventing Fraud

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- Establish written policies and procedures
- Rotate roles periodically
- Authorization limits
  - Contracts
  - Wages
  - Credit Cards (who has access to #?)
  - Check signing authority
  - Loans
  - Accounts Payable; vendors and invoices
  - Wires, ach, and any electronic money transfers



# Protecting Electronic Data

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- Protect and dispose of physical and electronic files properly
- Properly install new technologies and communication channels (wifi and remote access)
- Check security standards and don't use factory defaults
- Periodically have your system tested; penetration and vulnerability
- Know your third parties and what they do with data
- Business continuity and disaster recovery
- Have an Incident Response Program



# Employee/Volunteer Focus

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## Personnel Controls:

- Observe employee behaviors
- Test knowledge and review policies
- Perform due diligence when hiring new employees or temporary workers
  - Background check
  - Credit check
  - Check references



# THE RED FLAGS OF FRAUD

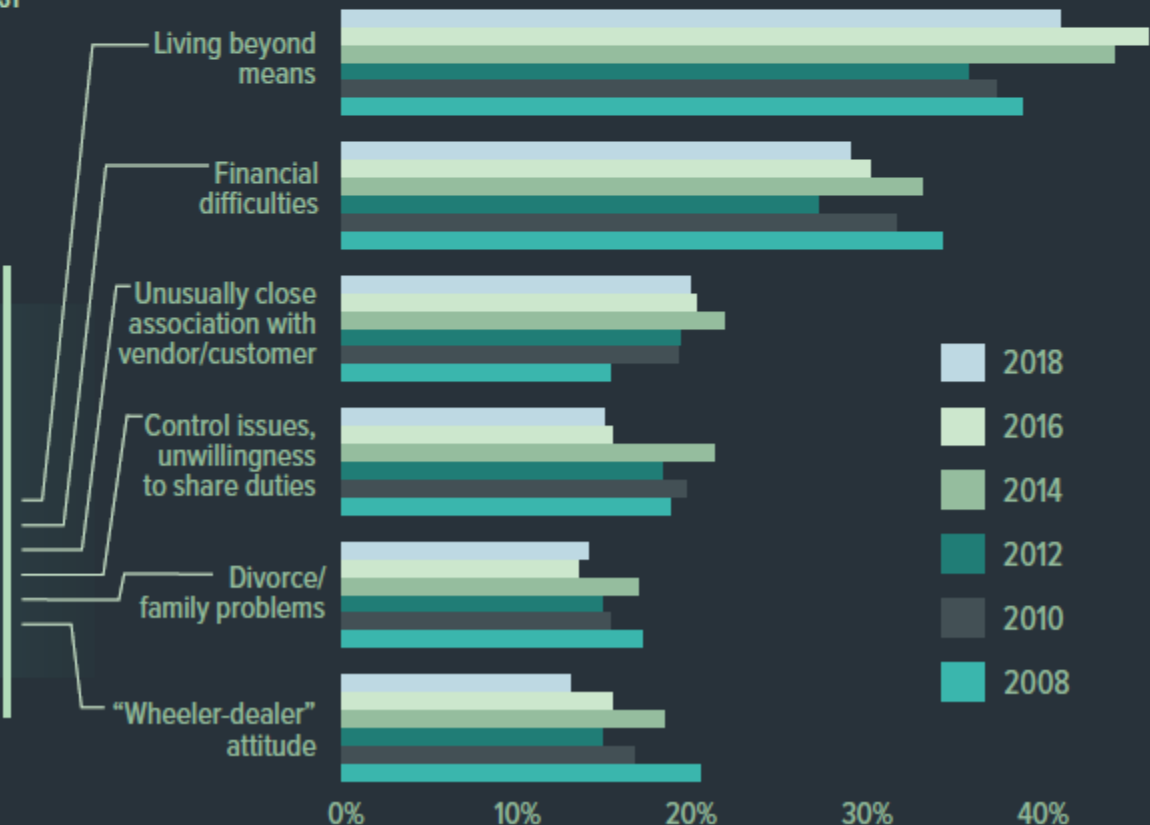
Understanding and recognizing the behavioral red flags displayed by fraud perpetrators can help organizations detect fraud and mitigate losses.

IN  
**85%**  
OF CASES FRAUDSTERS DISPLAYED AT LEAST  
ONE BEHAVIORAL RED FLAG

AND IN  
**50%**  
OF CASES THEY EXHIBITED  
MULTIPLE RED FLAGS

## These **6 BEHAVIORAL RED FLAGS**

have been the most common in every one of our studies dating back to 2008, with a remarkably consistent distribution



## OWNER/ EXECUTIVE

## Red flags varied by PERPETRATOR'S POSITION

## EMPLOYEE

24%

Unusually close association with vendor/customer

16%

21%

Control issues, unwillingness to share duties

8%

22%

"Wheeler-dealer" attitude

9%

18%

Irritability, suspiciousness, or defensiveness

10%

23%

Financial difficulties

35%

4%

Complained about inadequate pay

11%



## Red flags varied by PERPETRATOR'S GENDER



24%

Financial difficulties

39%

11%

Divorce/family problems

20%

2%

Instability in life circumstances

6%

24%

Unusually close association with vendor/customer

11%

16%

"Wheeler-dealer" attitude

6%

8%

Excessive pressure from within the organization

3%

# Preventing Fraud

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## **Establish strong policies and procedures:**

- Conduct new employee orientation
- Implement a Whistleblower Policy
  - A way to report suspected activity
  - Anonymous method
  - No retaliation
- Establish a Code of Ethics
  - Conflicts of interest
  - Gifting policy
  - Expected behaviors and values
- Create record retention guidelines
- Have an employee handbook
  - Accountability
  - Document a process for violating the rules





# Protecting Data

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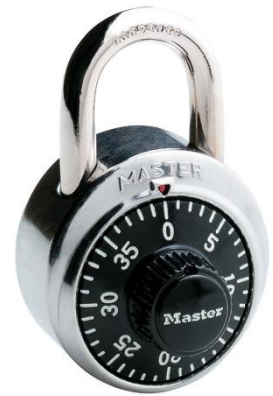
- Utilize complex passwords
- Provide user access based on job responsibilities
- Implement patches and upgrades
- Truncate account numbers and personal information
- Don't store credit card data
- Back up programs and data regularly
- Apply patches when released
- Look for end of life or unsupported systems
- Perform network scans
- Review firewall configuration



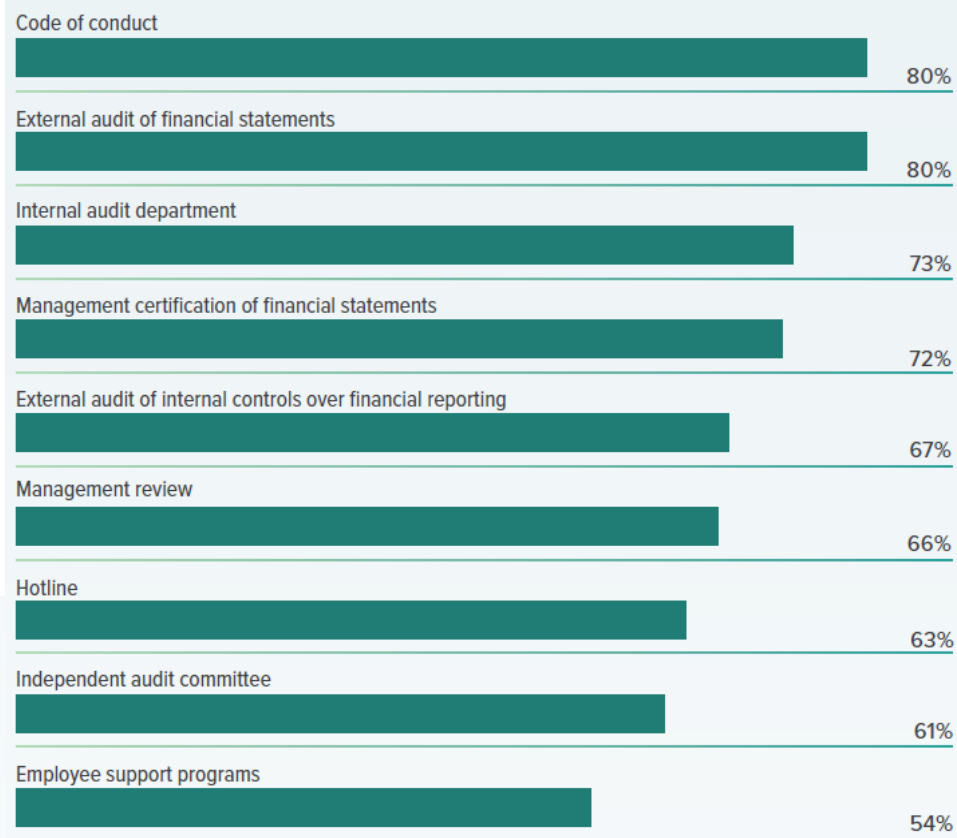
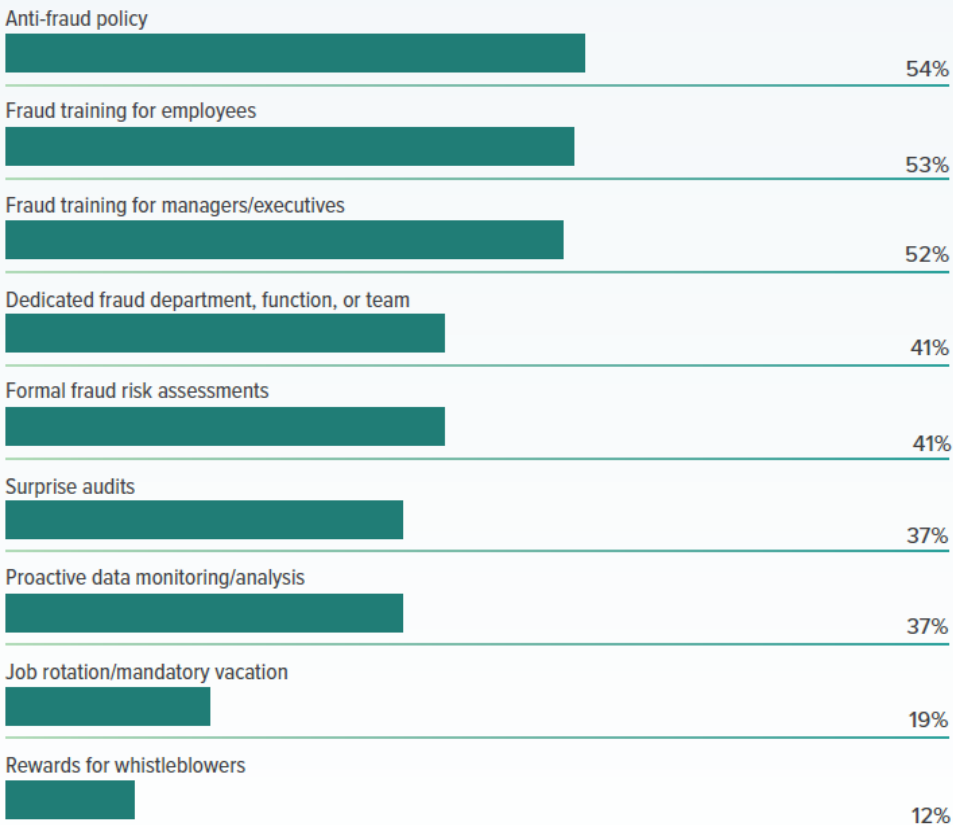
# Preventing Fraud

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- Physical Controls
  - Negotiable instruments
  - Cash and records
  - Dual controls
- Physical security
  - Alarms
  - Access Controls
  - Video surveillance



# Most Common



# Anti-Fraud Controls

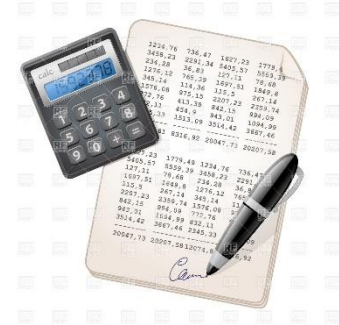


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# Identifying Fraud

## Financial Controls:

- Conduct annual reviews or audits of financial records
  - Compilations, reviews and audits
- Regularly conduct account reconciliations
  - Review stale activity
  - Segregation of duties
  - Delivery of bank statements
- Review budget-to-actual projections
  - Identify unusual fluctuations and variances



# Identifying Fraud

## Observations:

- Employees that take vacation or never take vacation
  - > 5 years tenure = \$200,000 while <5 years = \$100,000
- Phone Calls or mail for unrelated people or businesses sent to your non-profit
- Access logs
- Management reviews
- New vendors set up for accounts payable



# Insurance as a Control

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Insurance is not a control, but it can save your entity

- Directors and Officers Insurance
- Employment practices policy (payroll)
- Bond or General Liability policy
  - Actions of employees
- Interruption of Services or Cyber insurance
- Property insurance
- Review your deductibles
- Assess your coverage periodically



# Recover from a Fraud

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- Notify the appropriate agencies (law enforcement, Attorney General, Consumer Affairs, etc.)
- Notify your insurance agency, financial institutions, and CPA firm.
- Remediation of computer equipment
  - Change passwords
  - Change accounts
  - Change user name
  - Restore from backups
- Retain documentation;  
The Devil is in the Details



# Conclusion

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- Fraud is everywhere
- Establish a system of checks and balances
- Monitor activity
- Protect your physical environment
- Review and understand financial results
- Know where your data is, and who has access to it
- Understand and utilize technology
- Review relationships with third parties
- Know your employees
- Educate your employees
- Be observant and practice professional skepticism



# References

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- Association of Certified Fraud Examiners – <http://www.acfe.com/>
- 2018 Report to the Nations - <http://www.acfe.com/report-to-the-nations/2018/>
- MA Data Breach Requirements - <https://www.mass.gov/service-details/requirements-for-data-breach-notifications> Internet Crime Complaint Center – [www.ic3.gov](http://www.ic3.gov)
- Federal Bureau of Investigation - <https://www.fbi.gov/investigate/cyber>
- Department of Homeland Security - <https://www.dhs.gov/topic/combating-cyber-crime>
- Verizon Data Breach Report - <http://www.verizonenterprise.com/verizon-insights-lab/dbir/2017/>
- Federal Trade Commission – <https://www.ftc.gov/>

# Questions?

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