

SAMPLE FRAUD POLICY

BACKGROUND The corporate fraud policy is established to facilitate the development of controls which will aid in the detection and prevention of fraud against ABC Corporation. It is the intent of ABC Corporation to promote consistent organizational behavior by providing guidelines and assigning responsibility for the development of controls and conduct of investigations.

SCOPE OF POLICY This policy applies to any fraud, or suspected fraud, involving employees as well as shareholders, consultants, vendors, contractors, outside agencies doing business with employees of such agencies, and/or any other parties with a business relationship with ABC Corporation (also called the Company).

Any investigative activity required will be conducted without regard to the suspected wrongdoer's length of service, position/title, or relationship to the Company.

POLICY Management is responsible for the detection and prevention of fraud, misappropriations, and other inappropriate conduct. Fraud is defined as the intentional, false representation or concealment of a material fact for the purpose of inducing another to act upon it to his or her injury. Each member of the management team will be familiar with the types of improprieties that might occur within his or her area of responsibility, and be alert for any indication of irregularity.

Any fraud that is detected or suspected must be reported immediately to _____, who coordinates all investigations with the Legal Department and other affected areas, both internal and external.

ACTIONS CONSTITUTING FRAUD The terms defalcation, misappropriation, and other fiscal wrongdoings refer to, but are not limited to:

- Any dishonest or fraudulent act
- Forgery or alteration of any document or account belonging to the Company
- Forgery or alteration of a check, bank draft, or any other financial document
- Misappropriation of funds, securities, supplies, or other assets
- Impropriety in the handling or reporting of money or financial transactions
- Profiteering as a result of insider knowledge of company activities

SAMPLE FRAUD POLICY

ACTIONS CONSTITUTING FRAUD

- Disclosing confidential and proprietary information to outside parties
- Disclosing to other persons securities activities engaged in or contemplated by the company
- Accepting or seeking anything of material value from contractors vendors or persons providing services/materials to the Company. Exception: Gifts less than \$50 in value.
- Destruction, removal or inappropriate use of records, furniture, fixtures, and equipment; and/or
- Any similar or related inappropriate conduct

OTHER INAPPROPRIATE CONDUCT

Suspected improprieties concerning an employee's moral, ethical, or behavioral conduct, should be resolved by departmental management and Employee Relations of Human Resources rather than _____ .

If there is any question as to whether an action constitutes fraud, contact _____ for guidance.

INVESTIGATION RESPONSIBILITIES

The _____ has the primary responsibility for the investigation of all suspected fraudulent acts as defined in the policy. If the investigation substantiates that fraudulent activities have occurred, the _____ will issue reports to appropriate designated personnel and, if appropriate, to the Board of Directors through the Audit Committee.

Decisions to prosecute or refer the examination results to the appropriate law enforcement and/or regulatory agencies for independent investigation will be made in conjunction with legal counsel and senior management, as will final decisions on disposition of the case.

SAMPLE FRAUD POLICY

CONFIDENTIALITY

The _____ treats all information received *confidentially*. Any employee who suspects dishonest or fraudulent activity will notify the _____ immediately, and *should not attempt to personally conduct investigations or interviews/interrogations* related to any suspected fraudulent act (see **REPORTING PROCEDURE** section below).

Investigation results *will not be disclosed or discussed* with anyone other than those who have a legitimate need to know. This is important in order to avoid damaging the reputations of persons suspected but subsequently found innocent of wrongful conduct and to protect the Company from potential civil liability.

AUTHORIZATION FOR INVESTIGATING SUSPECTED FRAUD

Members of the Investigation Unit will have :

- Free and unrestricted access to all Company records and premises, whether owned or rented; AND
- The authority to examine, copy, and/or remove all or any portion of the contents of files, desks, cabinets, and other storage facilities on the premises without prior knowledge or consent of any individual who may use or have custody of any such items or facilities when it is within the scope of their investigation.

REPORTING PROCEDURES

Great care must be taken in the investigation of suspected improprieties or wrongdoings so as to avoid mistaken accusations or alerting suspected individuals that an investigation is under way.

An employee who discovers or suspects fraudulent activity will *contact* _____ *immediately*. The employee or other complainant may remain anonymous. All inquiries concerning the activity under investigation from the suspected individual, his or her attorney or representative, or any other inquirer should be directed to the Investigations Unit or the Legal Department. No information concerning the status of an investigation will be given out. The proper response to any inquiries is: "I am not at liberty to discuss this matter." *Under no circumstances* should any reference be made to "the allegation," "the crime," "the fraud," "the forgery," "the misappropriation," or any other specific reference.

SAMPLE FRAUD POLICY

REPORTING PROCEDURES

The reporting individual should be informed of the following:

- Do not contact the suspected individual in an effort to determine facts or demand restitution.
- Do not discuss the case, facts, suspicions, or allegations with *anyone* unless specifically asked to do so by the Legal Department or _____.

TERMINATION

If an investigation results in a recommendation to terminate an individual, the recommendation will be reviewed for approval by the designated representatives from Human Resources and the Legal Department and, if necessary, by outside counsel, before any such action is taken. The _____ does not have the authority to terminate an employee. The decision to terminate an employee is made by the employee's management. Should the _____ believe the management decision inappropriate for the facts presented, the facts will be presented to executive level management for a decision.

ADMINISTRATION

The _____ is responsible for the administration, revision, interpretation, and application of this policy. The policy will be reviewed annually and revised as needed.

APPROVAL

(CEO/Senior Vice President/Executive)

Date

SAMPLE FRAUD POLICY

Corporate Fraud Policy Decision Matrix

Action Required	Investigatio Unit	Internal Audit	Finance/ Accounting	Executive Mgmt	Line Mgmt	Risk Mgmt	Legal	Public Relations	Employee Relations
1. Controls to Prevent Fraud	S	S	S	SR	SR	S	S	S	S
2. Incident Reporting	P	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S
3. Investigation of Fraud	P	S					S		S
4. Referrals to Law Enforcement	P						S		
5. Recovery of Monies due to Fraud	P								
6. Recommendations to Prevent Fraud	SR	SR	S	S	S	S	S	S	S
7. Internal Control Reviews		P							
8. Handle Cases of a Sensitive Nature	P	S		S		S	S		S
9. Publicity/Press Releases	S	S						P	
10. Civil Litigation	S	S					P		
11. Corrective Action/ Recommendations to Prevent Recurrences	SR	SR		S	SR	S	S		
12. Monitor Recoveries	S		P						
13. Pro-active Fraud Auditing	S	P							
14. Fraud Education/Training	P	S			S			S	
15. Risk Analysis of Areas of Vulnerability	S	S				P			
16. Case Analysis	P	S							
17. Hotline	P	S							
18. EthicsLine	S	S					P		

P (Primary Responsibility) S(Secondary Responsibility) SR (Shared Responsibility)