

Detecting Fraud

Instructor: Scott Langlinais, CPA

Auditors, finance managers, and accountants possess the unique ability to defend against problems, protect leaders from surprises, and help keep their organizations from landing on the front page of the *Wall Street Journal* for the wrong reasons. This in-depth workshop offers the knowledge and skills necessary to detect and prevent fraud. The practical methods we teach provide valuable solutions for addressing difficult issues. We reinforce key learning points through case studies and practical group exercises. You will see fraud as we encounter it in the field.

Who Should Attend: Auditors, finance personnel, and investigators, who possess the unique ability to defend against fraud, protect their leaders from surprises, and help keep their organizations and clients away from unwelcome media attention.

Learning Objectives

Upon completion of this course, you will understand how to:

- Overcome mindsets that prevent people from detecting fraud;
- Learn to address risks and weave practical detection techniques into daily activities;
- Identify what can go wrong in your organization;
- Recognize common symptoms of fraud;
- Explore the most useful techniques for detecting problems;
- Avoid common pitfalls;
- Learn to recognize the symptoms and effects of systemic fraud, and will understand how to help prevent problems from spreading across an entire organization;
- Apply techniques successfully used by other organizations to defend against fraud;
- Apply lessons from case studies to your own environment.

16 CPE

Field of Study: Accounting, Auditing

Group-live

No prerequisites or advanced preparation required

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Defending against Fraud
(214) 235-2457

Detecting Fraud Course Contents

Understanding Dishonest and Fraudulent Activity

- Why fraud persists
- How much fraud is out there?
- Establishing responsibility for fraud detection
- Getting started exercise to evaluate your environment
- Exploring who steals and factors impacting integrity
- An allegation exercise to explore your organization's ability to handle fraud
- Perceptions of wrongdoing
- Five dangers to avoid

Addressing Fraud

- The five-step approach to fraud detection
- Fraud-related expectations for managers and auditors
- How allegations surface
- Why people fail to report suspected wrongdoing
- What can go wrong by process area
- Common symptoms of fraud
- How to identify symptoms and create detective processes
- Case study exercises to reinforce detection methods
- The danger of over-reliance on internal controls

Systemic Fraud

- How a disaster unfolds and why organizational systems matter
- The power of authority
- Fraud implications of chasing unreasonable goals
- Unintended consequences of incentive compensation plans
- Subtle segregation of duties issues
- Detecting problems in large contracts
- Corruption – cases worth knowing
- Case study exercises dealing with systemic fraud

Building Your Plan

- Building detection into routine activities
- Preventing fraud through organizational wisdom, the four elements of discipline, and thematic categories of operational success
- Taking detection a step further with continuous monitoring
- Accountability for managers, finance, and auditors

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About the Instructor

Scott Langlinais has dedicated over 20 years of his career as a CPA to fraud detection and investigation. Audit and finance professionals around the world have invited him in-house to assist with investigations and educate personnel about proper fraud detection, prevention, and response. Business leaders from emerging companies to Fortune 500's, across most industries, have asked him to assess their environment, perform diagnostic tests to detect symptoms of wrongdoing, and design strategies to help defend the organization's people, reputation, and assets. He has conducted investigations related to executive corruption, bribes & kickbacks, vendor overbilling & underperformance, and employee theft. He regularly reports his findings to Boards of Directors, has submitted his findings to law enforcement organizations such as the U.S. Secret Service, and has testified in court.

Mr. Langlinais employs sophisticated data analysis techniques to sift through system transactions and seek indicators of fraud. Using such techniques, he has helped companies recover millions of dollars from wrongdoing such as intentional overpayments to vendors, unbilled revenues, and corruption.

He speaks regularly about his fraud detection and investigation experiences at conferences hosted by the Institute of Internal Auditors, the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants, the Association of Certified Fraud Examiners, State Auditors, and the Information Systems Audit and Control Association. The International Risk Management Institute has published several of his articles about fraud prevention.

Prior to starting his own practice in 2003, Mr. Langlinais held public accounting and internal audit leadership positions, and served as Chief Audit Executive for a NASDAQ 100 software company.

He received a BBA degree from the University of Notre Dame in 1991.

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