## What to Expect from Your Forensic Accountant Dealing with the Legal Side of Forensic Accounting

Presentation to FENG – September 2019

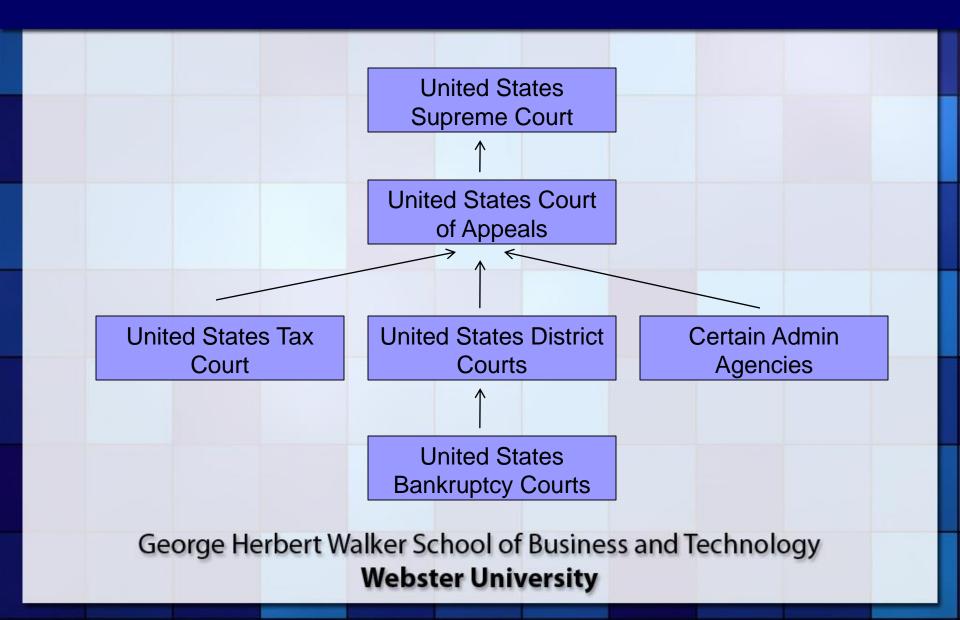
#### **AIG Probe**

"Cash/CDS spread differential," "need to quantify" and "could be 10 points on \$75 billion."

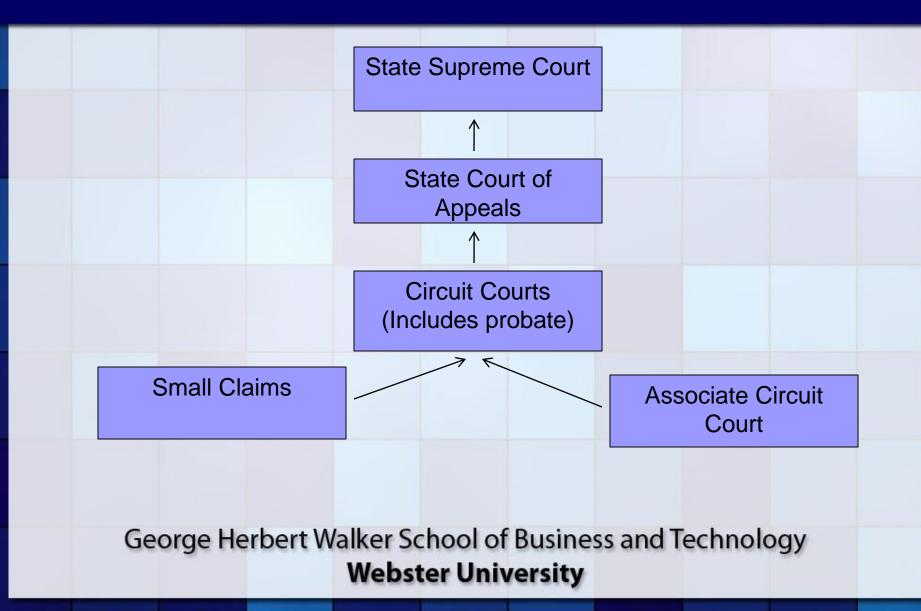
#### What is Forensic Accounting?

- Forensic accounting is:
- The use and application of the field of accounting;
- In the investigation and establishment of;
- Facts or evidence in a court of law.

#### **Federal Court System**



#### **State Court System**



#### **Function of Attorney**

#### Function of an Attorney?

#### **Function of Attorney**

#### Advocate

#### Represent Client Zealously

#### **Expert Witness**

What is the function of an expert?

#### Independence

### Independence

What Does that Mean?

#### Independence

#### If Expert is Independent then

## The Expert Should be Open and Fair to all Participants?

#### Communication

#### **Expert Must Know the "Audience"**

## The Expert Must Be Able to Communicate

#### **Expert Credentials**

#### **Forensic Accountant Credentials:**

CPA (Certified Public Accountant)
CFE (Certified Fraud Examiner)
CMA (Certified Management Accountant
CFF (Certified in Financial Forensics)
ABV (Accredited in Business Valuation)

#### **Criminal vs. Civil**

# Criminal vs. Civil Discovery Differences Burden of Proof Remedy

#### **Investigation in a Criminal Case**

## Some Tools of Investigation in a Criminal Case:

**Search Warrants** 

**Government Databases** 

**Detaining the Suspect** 

#### **Investigation in a Civil Case**

## Before You File a Civil Lawsuit How Do You Investigate

#### **Discovery in a Civil Case**

### Discovery in a Civil Case After the Filing of a Lawsuit

Interrogatories
Request for Production
Request for Admissions
Depositions

#### **Participation of Expert in Discovery**

#### Participation of Expert in Discovery

## Advice Drafting of Discovery Requests Appearance at Depositions

#### **Analytics**

#### Use of Analytics in the Investigation

Tableau
Power BI
ACL
IDEA
R

#### **Subpoena or Search Warrant**

#### What to Do If:

You are Served With a Subpoena

and/or

You are Served With a Search Warrant

#### **Participation of Expert in Discovery**

#### **Attorney Client Privilege**

#### **Accountant Client Privilege**

**Work Product** 

#### **Expert Reports**

**Expert Reports** 

What would you expect?

No legal conclusions

**Drafts** 

#### **Laying a Foundation for Experts**

Laying a foundation for experts

Federal Rules of Evidence (FRE):

Daubert v. Merrell Dow Pharmaceuticals

**State Rules** 

#### Rule 702 of the Federal Rules of Evidence

### Rule 702 of the Federal Rules of Evidence

Qualify as an expert based on knowledge, skill, experience, training or education in order to testify in the form of an opinion

#### Rule 702 of the Federal Rules of Evidence

FRE 702 will allow expert opinion if:

Expert will help the trier of fact understand the evidence or to determine a fact;

Testimony is the product of reliable principles and methods;

Expert has reliably applied the principles and methods to the facts of the case.

#### **Expert Testimony in State Court**

Each state has its own rules with respect to expert testimony

May be similar to FRE and Daubert

#### **Expert Witness Foundation**

Expert's testimony may be challenged:

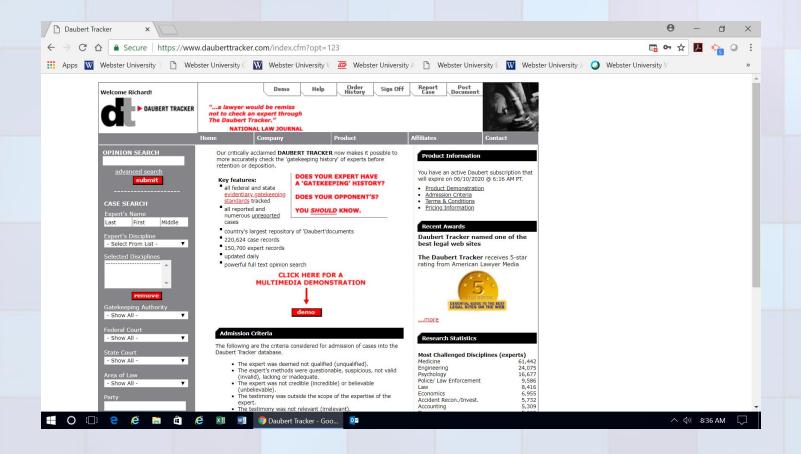
Pretrial Motion in Limine or During the trial

#### **Daubert Tracker**

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https://www.dauberttracker.com/casereport.

#### **Daubert Tracker**



#### Relevance

#### Relevant evidence is admissible

## Evidence of insurance or remedial measures is not relevant and so is not admissible

#### **Examination of Witnesses**

**Direct Examination** 

**Cross-Examination** 

Leading Questions not allowed except on cross-examination or hostile witness

#### **Examination of Witnesses**

#### Asked and answered objection

#### **Hearsay**

Hearsay

**Exceptions to hearsay rule** 

**Business record exception** 

#### **Authentication**

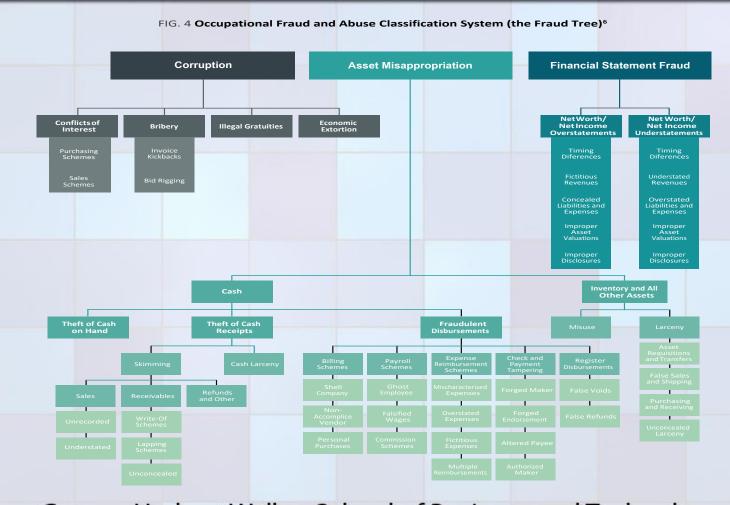
## Authenticate that item of evidence - item is what the proponent claims it is

Chain of custody

#### **ACFE** Report to the Nations

## The Following Slides are from the Association of Certified Fraud Examiners (ACFE) 2018 Report to the Nations

#### **Fraud Tree**



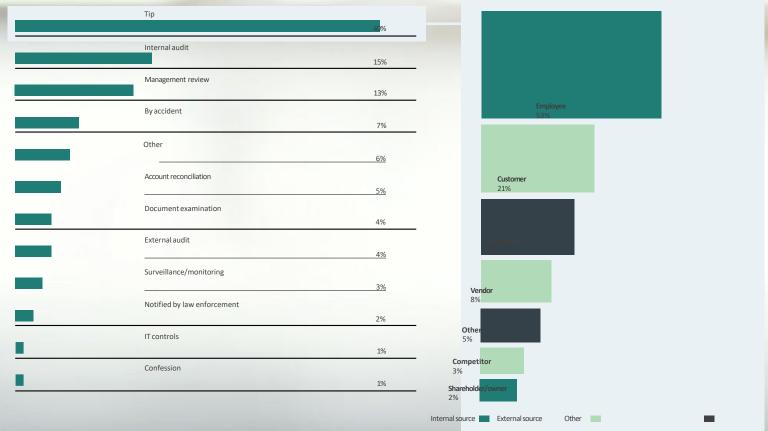
#### **Tip Sources**

Since tips are the most common detection method, it is important to understand where those tips come from. Figure 10 shows that slightly more than half of all tips (53%) were provided by employees of the victim organizations. Meanwhile, nearly one-third (32%) of the tips that led to fraud detection came from people outside the organization: customers, vendors, and competitors. Active cultivation of tips and complaints, such as the promotion of fraud hotlines, is often geared primarily toward employees,

but this data suggests organizations should also consider promoting reporting mechanisms to outside parties, especially customers and vendors. Additionally, 14% of tips came from an anonymous source, demonstrating that a significant portion of those who reported fraud did not want their identities known. Whistleblowers often have a fear of being identified or retaliated against, which is why it is important that they be able to make reports anonymously where such practice is legally permissible.

#### FIG. 9 How is occupational fraud initially detected?

FIG. 10 Who reports occupational fraud?



#### **Questions**

### Questions