#### 2014 BRINGING ADMINISTRATORS TOGETHER CONFERENCE

# Internal Controls and Fraud Prevention For Your Unit

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## Workshop Presenter

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### Please ...

- Turn off cell phones.
- Avoid side conversations.
- Please ask questions at anytime by raising your hand.
- Sign the attendance roster.
- Complete the evaluation at the end of the workshop.



## Workshop Objectives

- Learn about:
  - Strengths and weaknesses of different internal control types.
  - Internal control issues identified through most recent internal audits.
  - Different fraud schemes investigated at UIC.
  - Personal characteristics and behavior of fraudsters.



## Why have internal controls?





## Types of Internal Controls

#### Detective

 Designed to detect errors or irregularities that may have occurred.

#### Preventive

 Designed to keep errors or irregularities from occurring in the first place.

#### Corrective

 Designed to correct errors or irregularities that have been detected.



# Internal control design considerations



**Case Study** 

- The control needs to fit your resources.
- Build in segregation of duties.
  - Communicate to all employees how the particular business process is suppose to work.
- Management oversight.



## **Transaction Cycles**

- Organization & Management
- Administrative Support Services
- Budgeting, Accounting, & Reporting
- Purchasing, Contracting, & Leasing
- Expenditures
  - P-Card
  - T-Card
  - i-Buy



## **Transaction Cycles**

- Personnel & Payroll
- Property, Equipment, & Inventories
- Revenues & Receivables
- Cash & Local Funds
- Gift & Grant Administration
- Information Technology



### Recent Internal Control Issues

- P-Card
- T-Card
- Program Advances
- Credit card refunds
- Travel or miscellaneous expense reimbursements
- Honorarium
- High Risk Data

- Self approval of benefit time usage
- Self approval of payroll
- Overtime in lieu of a raise
- Cash Gifts
- Change funds
- Petty cash funds



## Fraud Red Flags

- No one should be responsible for all aspects of a transaction.
- Unrestricted or unnecessary access to assets or sensitive data (e.g., cash, personnel records, etc.).
- Transaction approval(s) by management override.
- C-FOAPAL structure with no true accountability for segregating funds, transactions, or cost centers.



## General Characteristics of Fraud Perpetrator

- Individual is trusted.
- Usually start small and then get greedy.
- Act is intentionally concealed.
- Employee doesn't take vacation.
- Never gives a definitive answer to direct questions.
- Never let others review their work.





## Workshop Summary

- Internal Control only provides reasonable assurance that objectives have been achieved.
- Fraud is designed to be hidden and appear as normal business transactions.
- Ask for clarity when transactions, explanations, or other justifications do not appear normal.
- Special attention to the transactions where a person can enrich themselves.



## Questions / Concerns?