Practical and Ethical Issues in Internal and Government Investigations

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Practical and Ethical Issues

TOPIC AREAS

- ▶ Benefits of a Properly-Conducted Investigation
- ▶ Conducting Internal Investigations Scope, Securing Documents and Identifying Relevant Data and Employee Interviews
- ▶ Special Considerations Associated with Cross-Border Investigations
- Steps Forward when the Internal Investigation is Complete
- ▶ Ethical Behavior During an SEC or DOJ Investigation
 - Multiple Representations
 - · Joint Defense Agreements

BENEFITS OF A PROPERLY-CONDUCTED INVESTIGATION

- Perform root cause analysis of underlying issues
- Address potential process and internal controls issues
- Opportunity to remove or sanction wrongdoers
- Demonstrate commitment to compliance and code of conduct
- Management review of existing corporate policies for effectiveness
- Credit from the government for cooperation for corporations with good compliance programs and the disclosure of issues
- ▶ Future credibility from active program of internal investigations
- ▶ Early and accurate assessment of exposure and potential avoidance of formal legal proceedings and expenses
- Protection for the Board and/or senior management
- ▶ Fulfills duty to investigate report of possible material securities law violation (SOX)

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INTERNAL INVESTIGATIONS

SCOPING THE REVIEW

- Once a company determines an investigation is warranted, steps should be taken to scope the work to be performed.
- Who Should Conduct the Investigation
- Who Should Direct the Investigation
- What is the Role of Outside Auditors

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Title search: Effective Management of Internal Investigations

Also available as part of the eCourse <u>Effective Management of Internal Investigations: Whistleblowers, Coping with Data Management, and more</u>

First appeared as part of the conference materials for the 5th Annual Government Enforcement Institute session "Effective Management of Internal Investigations"