Prevent Fraud By Maintaining a Safe Workplace Stats and Facts



FACTS

- 1. Employees have admitted to stealing at least once from their employer.
- 2. Whether it's a result of entitlement or just general dishonesty, employee theft comes in many forms and at varying degrees.
- 3. Everything from scrolling social media during a meeting to sharing confidential documents with an outside source can be considered workplace theft.
- 4. If you're leading a company, it's important to stay up to date on what's what (legally). Internal theft can have a major impact on your bottom line.
- 5. In most cases, you can spot employee fraudsters through behavioral red flags such as living beyond their means, excessive control issues, or irritability.
- 6. The best departments to start fraud investigations include operations, accounting, upper management, and sales as these are the top departments where occupational fraud cases have been discovered.

STATS

- More than three-fourths of all occupational fraud cases came from these highrisk departments: Operations (15%), Accounting (14%), Executive/Upper Management (12%), Sales (11%), and Customer Service (9%) (ACFE, 2020).
- 75% of employees admitted to stealing from their employers at least once and 37.5% of employees have stolen at least twice (Static Brain, n.d.).
- 64% of employees steal from small businesses, showing how small businesses are very susceptible to employee theft (Complete Controller, 2019).
- 79% of embezzlement cases involved more than one employee. The average number of employees involved is three (CUTimes, 2019).

Profile of Perpetrators

- 33% of embezzlers worked in the accounting or finance department (CUTimes, 2019).
- 85% of embezzlement cases were perpetrated by an employee at the managerial level or above (CUTimes, 2019).
- 41% of occupational fraud cases were perpetrated by employee-level staff, 35% were done by manager-level personnel, and 20% were committed by owners/executives (ACFE, 2020).
- 64% of occupational fraudsters had a university degree or higher (ACFE, 2020).
- Males committed more occupational fraud (72%) than females