Securities Division

Behavioral Red Flags of Fraud

Recognizing the behavioral clues displayed by fraudsters can help organizations more effectively detect fraud and minimize their losses.



OF ALL FRAUDSTERS displayed at least one BEHAVIORAL RED FLAG while

committing their crimes.

7 KEY WARNING SIGNS



Living beyond means



Financial difficulties



19%
Unusually close association with vendor/customer



Control issues, unwillingness to share duties



Irritability, suspiciousness, or defensiveness

13%

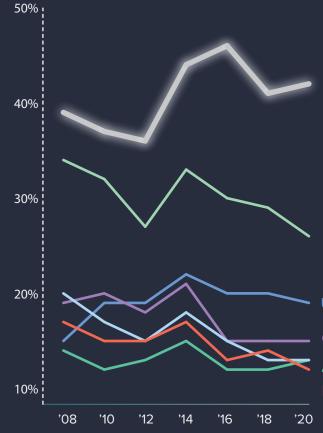


"Wheeler-dealer"



Divorce/family problems

LIVING BEYOND MEANS



Living beyond means

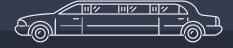
Financial difficulties



A fraudster living beyond his or her means is the most common red flag by a sizable margin.

This has ranked as the

#1 red flag in every study since 2008.



Unusually close association with vendor/customer

Control issues, unwillingness to share duties Irritability, suspiciousness, or defensiveness "Wheeler-dealer" attitude Divorce/family problems

CLASSIFYING **RED FLAG** BEHAVIORS

In **52**% of cases, the fraudster exhibited red flags connected to their **work duties**.

Unusually close association with vendor/customer

19%

Control issues, unwillingness to share duties

15%

Irritability, suspiciousness, or defensiveness

13%

"Wheeler-dealer" attitude

13%

Complained about inadequate pay

8%

Refusal to take vacations

7%

Excessive pressure from within organization

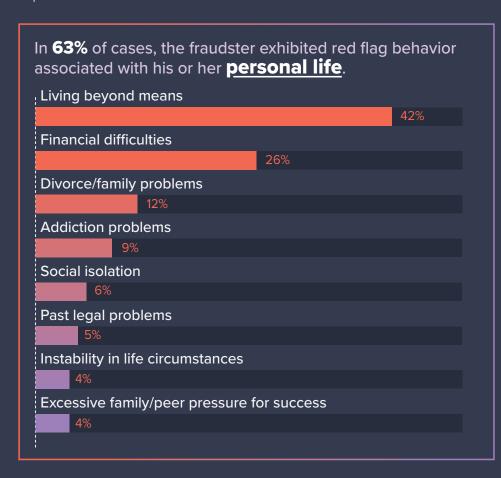
7%

Past employment-related problems

6%

Complained about lack of authority

5%



JOB PERFORMANCE AS A WARNING SIGN

A fraud perpetrator's job performance will often suffer while the scheme is taking place. Each of these performance-related issues were cited in at least 10% of cases.





FEAR OF JOB LOSS

