

Suspicious Activity Monitoring: What to Look for and How to Find It

Thursday, January 23, 2020

10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

As the first line of defense, compliance advisors may identify money laundering and other financial crimes. It is the responsibility of all firm associates to understand these risks. Join FINRA staff and industry professionals as they discuss new and concentrated areas of focus, such as terrorist financing, bribery and corruption. Attendees will also learn about new fraud trends and risks related to digital currencies.

Moderator: Scott Maestri
Examination Manager – Dallas Office
FINRA Member Supervision

Speakers: Brock Miller
Vice President, US AML/FCM Brokerage Program Lead
Raymond James Financial, Inc.

Blake Snyder
Senior Director
FINRA Anti-Money Laundering Investigative Unit (AMLIU)

Melinda Wolfe
Senior Vice President and Chief Compliance Officer
Kovack Securities, Inc.

Suspicious Activity Monitoring: What to Look for and How to Find It Panelist Bios:

Moderator:

Scott H. Maestri is Examination Director located in FINRA's Dallas Office. He began his career with NASD in 1999 as an examiner in the New Orleans District Office. Mr. Maestri was promoted to management in September of 2003 and became responsible for a team of examiners who monitored member firms through cycle and cause investigations, as well as, the Membership Application Process and Financial Surveillance. Mr. Maestri was promoted to the Associate District Director position in May of 2010 where his primary responsibility was the review and approval of the District Office's major program areas. Beginning in 2020, Mr. Maestri's role changed to focus on leading a team of four managers and 20 examiners located throughout the country who are responsible for conducting examinations of firms with a retail business model. Prior to NASD, Mr. Maestri worked in a variety of sales, operational, and compliance roles with both Morgan Stanley and Legg Mason in the Jackson, Mississippi branch office locations. During the course of his career, Mr. Maestri has been selected for Advanced Management training, and successfully obtained the Certified Regulatory and Compliance Professional™ (CRCP™) designation both issued through The Wharton School at the University of Pennsylvania. Mr. Maestri received his B.B.A. in Finance from The Else School of Management at Millsaps College.

Speakers:

Brock Miller is currently Vice President within the Raymond James Financial Anti-Money Laundering (AML) & Financial Crimes Management (FCM) department. Mr. Miller is responsible for overseeing the US Broker Dealer AML & FCM Programs as well as enhancing and overseeing the enterprise Know Your Client (including client identification, client due diligence and enhanced due diligence) program. Mr. Miller joined Raymond James Financial, Inc. in September 2015 with a mandate to develop and oversee the Higher Risk Securities Management program for Raymond James, which focused on identifying and monitoring penny stock transactions. Prior to joining Raymond James in 2015, Mr. Miller spent many years with Ernst & Young assisting major financial institutions in designing and implementing their AML and Financial Crimes programs, with a focus on regulatory response. Mr. Miller is a Certified Public Accountant, Certified Anti-Money Laundering Specialist and Certified Fraud Examiner. Mr. Miller received his BBA in Accounting, with an additional focus in Finance from the University of Cincinnati.

Blake Snyder is Senior Director of FINRA's AML Investigative Unit, which consists of a specialized team of examination staff that conduct complex Anti-Money Laundering examinations. The AMLIU's other functions include providing guidance to FINRA examination and Enforcement staff in connection with examinations and investigations; providing training to FINRA staff throughout the country; and providing education and training to the industry on AML issues. Mr. Snyder assists in developing FINRA's AML-related priorities and serves as a Regulatory Specialist within FINRA in the areas of AML, fraud and financial crime. Mr. Snyder holds the Certified Regulatory and Compliance Professional™ (CRCP)™ designation, and graduated from Florida State University with a Bachelor's degree in Finance. Mr. Snyder works from FINRA's Florida Office, and has been with FINRA for 19 years.

Melinda Wolfe is Senior Vice President and Chief Compliance Officer for Kovack Securities, Inc. Ms. Wolfe has worked in the financial services industry for approximately 30 years. She has been with Kovack Securities, Inc. for 14 years, the last eight in the capacity of Chief Compliance Officer. She supervises a team of 15 compliance officers in the department. Kovack Securities, Inc. is a mid-sized, independent Broker/Dealer in business for 20 years, with approximately 450 RR's and IAR's. Kovack Securities, Inc. has, in the past five years, filed one NMA and three CMA's. Ms. Wolfe is on the FINRA South Region Committee and serves as a hearing officer. Ms. Wolfe graduated from Florida International University with a BBA, majoring in Accounting. She holds the 6, 7, 24, 27, 79, and 99 licenses.

South Region Member Forum

January 23, 2020 | Hollywood, FL

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Panelists

○ Moderator

- Scott Maestri, Examination Manager – Dallas Office, FINRA Member Supervision

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- Brock Miller, Vice President, US AML/FCM Brokerage Program Lead, Raymond James Financial, Inc.
- Blake Snyder, Senior Director, FINRA Anti-Money Laundering Investigative Unit (AMLIU)
- Melinda Wolfe, Senior Vice President and Chief Compliance Officer, Kovack Securities, Inc.

