



Pacific Northwest Chapter #45

# ACFE PNW **Fraud Examiner** Newsletter

Q2 2021 V.2 Issue 2

## Chapter News

**Congratulations** are in order to our very own Joe Dervaes, CFE, member and the founding President of the PNW Chapter, for being awarded the **ACFE Hall of Fame Award** at the June 2021 global fraud conference.

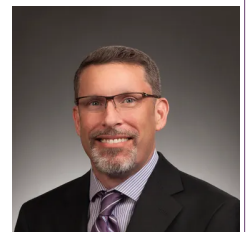
The ACFE Hall of Fame Award was created to recognize a person whose work spans decades, and is a reminder that what we do is vital to the global fight against fraud. The award encapsulates the very definition of what it means to be an anti-fraud professional, and per ACFE, "we can't think of anyone more deserving than a former ACFE Regent, a Cressey Award-winner and a member of the ACFE Foundation's Board of Directors for more than a decade.

Congratulations Joe!



## Message From the President

Greetings from the PNW Chapter of the ACFE!



June 30 is the end of our Chapter's fiscal year, and I am extremely proud of what our Chapter Board has accomplished in the last year. Some of our accomplishments have included:

- ★ Providing over 10 hours of excellent training and CPE through our monthly virtual training seminars.
- ★ Hosting two all-day remote fraud seminars (September 2020 and May 2021), for a total of 16 additional CPE credits, including two hours of ethics training.
- ★ Updating and re-launching the quarterly newsletter
- ★ Developing and launching our new website: [pnwacfe.org](http://pnwacfe.org)
- ★ Increasing membership by over 300% and hosting monthly virtual networking sessions to keep folks in touch!

Looking ahead, we are hoping to be able to get back to hosting in-person meetings sometime in the Fall, although timing will of course depend on the status of the pandemic and state regulations. Ultimately, we would like to make our trainings a combination of both live in-person events, combined with a remote/virtual option. We will be sure to let you know as soon as that happens.

Thank you for your ongoing membership with the Pacific NW Chapter.

-Mike Nurse, CFE, CPA, MBA



# Local Fraud in the News

The following press release was issued on Thursday, June 10, 2021 at justice.gov

## Husband of Amazon employee sentenced to prison for insider trading in Amazon stock - Made more than \$1.4 million trading Amazon stock using proprietary information during 'blackout' periods

Seattle - A 37-year-old Bothell, Washington man was sentenced today in U.S. District Court in Seattle to 26 months in prison for securities fraud due to his insider trading activity, announced Acting U.S. Attorney Tessa M. Gorman. Viky Bohra pleaded guilty in November 2020, admitting that between 2016 and 2018, he used Amazon inside information he obtained from his wife, an Amazon finance employee, to place trades in Amazon stock—making a profit of \$1,428,264. At the sentencing hearing U.S. District Judge James L. Robart noted that Bohra had turned his wife and father into criminals and added “I firmly believe white collar crime deserves equal treatment to what we call street crime.”

“This defendant and his wife were earning hundreds of thousands of dollars in salary and bonuses from their jobs in tech – but he was not content with that – greedily scheming to illegally profit by trading Amazon stock,” said U.S. Attorney Tessa M. Gorman. “This case should stand as a warning to those who try to game the markets with insider trading: there is a heavy price to pay with a felony conviction and prison sentence.”

According to records filed in the case, Bohra’s wife had access to confidential information regarding Amazon revenue and expenses. Because of that work, Bohra and his wife were subject to blackout periods during which no Amazon stock could be traded. Bohra’s wife was advised of insider trading policies making it clear the responsibility to safeguard confidential financial information. Despite those warnings, Bohra obtained his wife’s confidential information and traded in Amazon stock and options in accounts tied to him and his father. Trades occurred during blackout periods and, from 2016 to 2018, relied in part on information from his wife to make successful trades in advance of Amazon earnings announcements.

“Mr. Bohra knew exactly what he was doing and was driven solely by greed,” said Donald M. Voiret, FBI Special Agent in Charge of the Seattle Field Office. “With his nearly unlimited access and knowledge of securities trading, he undermined public trust in our financial markets.”

In asking for a 33-month sentence, prosecutors wrote to the court, “over two and a half years, Bohra, using information provided by his wife, made over \$1.4 million by making illegal stock and options trades. Bohra’s conduct was not an isolated incident, limited to trading before one Amazon earning’s statement. Rather, Bohra engaged in illegal insider trading in advance of **11 straight** earnings announcements.”

On September 28, 2020, Bohra was charged by the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) in a civil insider trading case. He and his family members have paid \$2,652,899 in disgorgement, interest and penalties. Based upon these payments, the United States is not seeking forfeiture in this case.

As part of the plea agreement, Bohra’s wife will not face criminal charges. Bohra’s wife is no longer employed at Amazon.

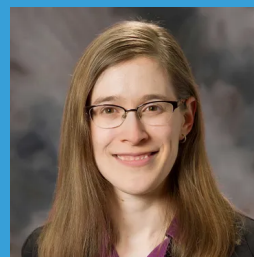
## PNW ACFE Board of Directors



Mike Nurse  
President



Kari Overson  
Vice-President



Victoria Kitts  
Treasurer-Secretary



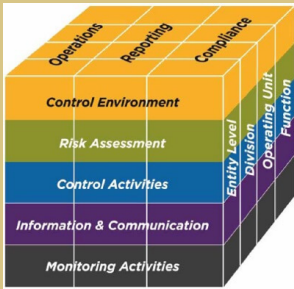
James Peet  
Training Director



Robert Goehring  
Member-at-Large

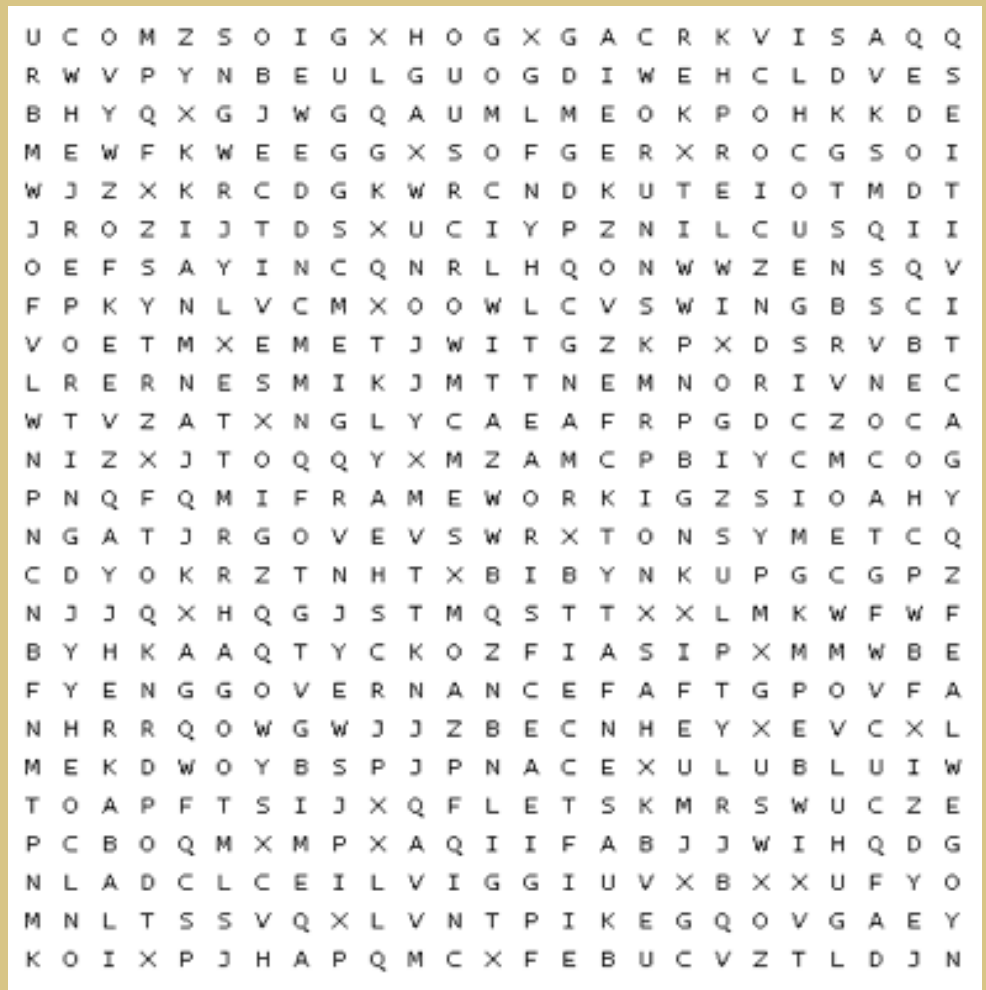


# COSO Internal Control Word Search



## Hidden Words

Activities  
Controls  
Framework  
Objectives  
Risk  
Communication  
Cube  
Governance  
Operations  
Tone  
Compliance  
Environment  
Monitoring  
Reporting



## What is COSO?



The Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission (COSO) is a joint initiative of five professional organizations and is dedicated to helping organizations improve performance by developing thought leadership that enhances internal control, risk management, governance and fraud deterrence.

For More Information, please visit: [www.coso.org](http://www.coso.org)



# Member News

Members are encouraged to get involved with the Chapter. Here's how:

## Speaking Opportunities

For our monthly remote sessions, trainings/speaking opportunities are an hour. Speaking at a training seminar is a great opportunity to talk about your work and educate folks on fraud related topics. Please email [mnurse@clarknuber.com](mailto:mnurse@clarknuber.com) if interested. Or, if you know of someone else that might be willing to speak, please let us know that as well!

## Board and Committee Positions

We are currently seeking two CFE members to serve on our Board of Directors. If you have interest in serving in a leadership role with the Pacific NW Chapter, please email [mnurse@clarknuber.com](mailto:mnurse@clarknuber.com)

We are also seeking individuals who would be interested in serving on committee work for the Chapter. Some of the areas that we are looking for are folks who can take on the quarterly newsletter, someone to manage our social media presence, and someone to assist with special projects as they arise, including community outreach and events.

## Upcoming Training

**Wednesday July 21, 2021**

**3:00pm to 4:00pm**

**Topic: The Intersection of Fraud and Cybersecurity**

**Speaker: Mike Hamilton, founder and CISO of CI Security**

The presentation will focus on how stolen information and victim trust are often obtained to perpetrate financial fraud, using examples of actual attack bait and other artifacts collected over 15 years.

To register, please visit [www.pnwacfe.org](http://www.pnwacfe.org)

## Interesting Internet Fraud Resources

**Ponzitracker: [ponzitracker.com](http://ponzitracker.com)**

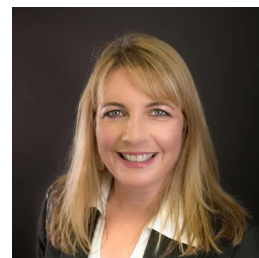
Check out Ponzitracker – the Ponzi Scheme Authority. Jordan Maglich, attorney at Buchanan Ingersoll & Rooney, P.C. in Tampa, has put together a blog and database educational resource for all information related to Ponzi schemes. The database is intended as a list of all Ponzi schemes uncovered and/or sentenced in the "Madoff era" and represents an extensive effort to provide transparency to the massive economic and societal toll of Ponzi schemes.

Super interesting!

## Board Member Spotlight

Kari Overson, CFE, PI has over 29 years investigating white collar crimes. She has investigated various federal and state crimes with the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA), Office of Inspector General (OIG), and the U.S. Department of Energy, OIG. Kari retired as the Special Agent in Charge of the SBA-OIG, supervising investigations in the 14 western states. She conducted complex fraud investigations involving bank loans, bankruptcy fraud, mortgage fraud, disaster loans, contract fraud, real estate fraud, false statements, false claims, bankruptcies and money laundering.

Kari owns her own firm, Overson Investigative Group, LLC, and her focus is on fraud investigations, mostly involving loan and bank fraud, bankruptcy fraud, money laundering, contract fraud, embezzlement, and due diligence investigations. She also has special interest in financial abuse of the elderly by caregivers or family members and finding heirs to estates by using her experience in investigations and genealogy research.





## Welcome New Members!

### New Chapter Members

Michael Barbelllo  
Cheryll Estrada  
Will Harris  
Charles Horst  
Jenny Hu  
Terri Kaser  
Donna Khanhasa  
Samir Khoury  
Robert Loe  
Michael Rimkus  
Reed Rowbotham  
John Sullivan  
Matthew Wilson

### New Associate Members

Jason Boss  
Joe Boynton  
Darryl Harris  
Stephen Hodges



### New Student Members

Joseph Plucker



**ACFE<sup>®</sup>**

Association of Certified Fraud Examiners

**Pacific Northwest Chapter #45**

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