# BSA/AML/CFT Guidance for Trust Companies:

Transaction Monitoring and SAR Reporting for Foreign Structures

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FinCEN Assesses \$1.5 Million Civil Money Penalty against Kingdom Trust

"This enforcement action is an important statement that we will not tolerate trust companies with weak compliance programs that fail to identify and report suspicious activities, particularly with respect to high-risk customers whose businesses pose an elevated risk of money laundering."

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### Division of Banking

SOUTH DAKOTA Division of Banking



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#### Anti-Money Laundering and Countering the Financing of Terrorism Guidance

On October 26, 2001, the USA PATRIOT Act became effective, bringing significant amendments and additions to the customer identification and Anti-Money Laundering (AML) provisions of the Bank Secrecy Act (BSA). The U.S. Department of the Treasury rules implementing BSA are codified at Title 31 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Chapter X entitled "Financial Crimes Enforcement Network, Department of the Treasury." Chapter X Section 1010.100 defines a financial institution to include a commercial bank or trust company organized under the laws of any state or of the U.S.

In short, all South Dakota chartered trust companies must develop and implement policies and procedures to ensure compliance with BSA reporting requirements. The South Dakota Division of Banking (Division) performs an AML/Countering the Financing of Terrorism (CFT) review in conjunction with each trust company's regularly scheduled examination. Trust company management is strongly encouraged to consult with legal counsel or others with knowledge and expertise in the field in developing a program for AML/CFT compliance that is specific to each trust company's respective business plan.

The following guidance is not all inclusive but provides trust company management with fundamental information pertaining to AML/CFT provisions and requirements. Management should refer to the Federal Financial Institutions Examination Council (FFIEC) BSA/AML Examination Manual for additional guidance.

# What has your experience been post-Kingdom Trust?



#### AML Program Expectations

#### 31 CFR §1010.210

- Amended September 15, 2020, to include state-chartered, non-depository trust companies
- Policies/Procedures/Controls i.e., an AML/CFT Program
- Compliance Officer
- Training
- Independent Audit Function (every 12-18 months)
- Risk-based procedures for ongoing customer due diligence
  - Nature/Purpose of Customer Relationships
  - Suspicious Transaction Monitoring
- Annual Risk Assessments . . . by the Board of Directors

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This proposed rule would:

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[T]he proposed rule seeks to *avoid one-size-fits-all approaches* to customer risk that can lead to financial institutions *declining* to provide financial services to *entire categories of customers*.

as well as provide for certain technical changes to program requirements; and

 promote clarity and consistency across FinCEN's program rules for different types of financial institutions.

that the AML/CFT regime is working to protect our financial system from longstanding threats like corruption, fraud, and international terrorism, as well as rapidly evolving and acute threats, such as domestic terrorism, and ransomware and other cybercrime."



# Is your program adequate?

Where and how will examiners and auditors look for BSA/AML/CFT Issues?

1. Review the policies, procedures, and processes related to trust and asset management services.

- Adequate given the bank's trust and asset management activities?
- Are controls adequate to protect from money laundering and terrorist financing?

- 2. Review the bank's procedures for gathering additional identification information.
- when necessary, about the settlor, grantor, trustee, or others with authority to direct a trustee, and
- who has authority over the account, to establish identity of the customer.

3. From a review of MIS and internal risk rating factors, does the bank identify and monitor trust and asset management relationships?

4. Determine how the bank includes trust and asset management relationships in **firm**wide BSA/AML aggregation systems.

5. Is the bank's system for monitoring trust and asset management relationships for suspicious activities – and for reporting of suspicious activities – adequate?

For <u>standalone trust</u> examination, apply the core examination procedures, for comprehensive guidance on the BSA/AML examination scope.

The trust examination may need to cover additional areas, including training, the BSA compliance officer, independent review, and follow-up items.

#### EXAMINATION PROCEDURES: TRANSACTION TESTING

Based on the **risk assessment** of the trust and asset management **relationships**, as well as prior examination and audit reports, **select a sample** 

- of *higher-risk* trust and asset management services **relationships**
- Include relationships with **grantors and cotrustees**, if they have authority or control,
- as well as any **higher-risk assets** such as private investment companies (PIC) or **asset protection trusts**

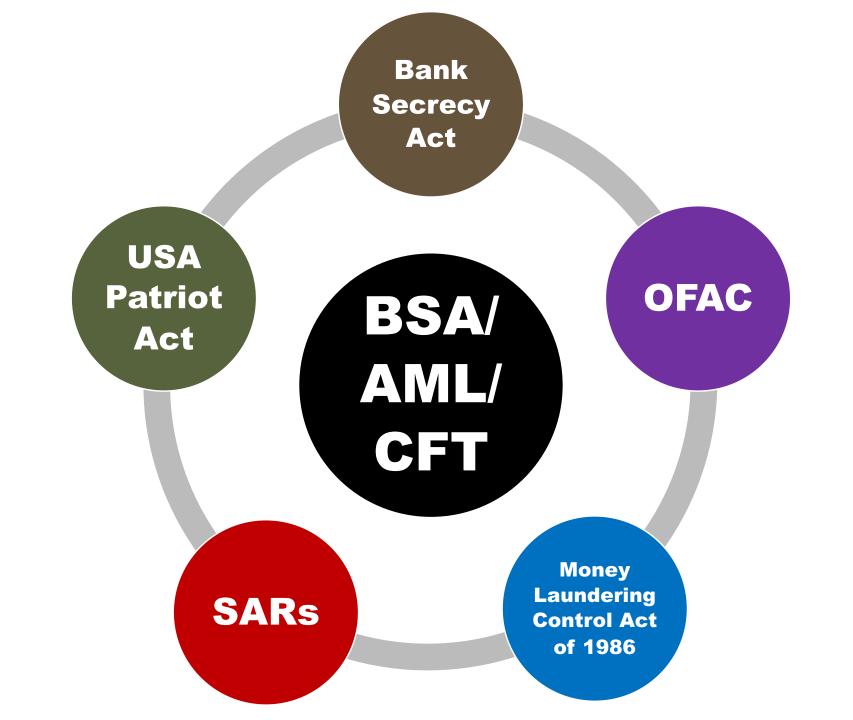


#### EXAMINATION PROCEDURES: TRANSACTION TESTING

From the sample selected, perform the following **examination procedures:** 

- Review account opening documentation, including the CIP, to ensure that **adequate due diligence** has been performed and that **appropriate records** are maintained
- Review account statements and, as necessary, specific transaction details
- Compare expected transactions with actual activity and determine whether actual activity is consistent with the nature of the customer's business and the stated purpose of the account
- · Identify any unusual or suspicious activity







## Customer Identification Program (CIP)

What do Trust Companies need to do?

## CIP: What's Required?

- Written CIP
- Incorporated into the AML/CFT compliance program
- Subject to approval by the Board of Directors
- · Reasonable belief that true identity of each customer is known
- Account opening procedures **specify the identifying information** that will be **obtained from each customer** (consider a grid)
- Include **reasonable and practical risk-based procedures** for verifying the identity of each customer

### CIP: What's an "Account"?

- Formal relationship to provide or engage in services,
- Includes safekeeping services and cash management, custodian, or trust services
- An account does **not** include:
  - Products or services for which a formal relationship is not established
  - Any account that the bank/trust company acquires
  - Accounts opened to participate in an **employee benefit plan** established under the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974

### CIP: Who is a "Customer"?

- A customer is a "person" (an individual, a corporation, partnership, a trust, an estate, or any other entity recognized as a legal person)
- Person who opens a new account
- An individual who opens a new account for individual who lacks legal capacity
- An individual who opens a new account for an entity that is not a legal person (e.g., a civic club)
- By contrast, when an account is opened by an **agent on behalf of another person**, the bank must obtain the identifying information of the **person on whose behalf the account is being opened**

### CIP: NOT a Customer

#### A customer **does NOT include**:

- a person who does not receive banking services, such as a person whose loan application is denied or trust relationship is declined
- existing customer as long as the bank has a reasonable belief that it knows the customer's true identity
- federally-regulated or state-regulated bank
- governmental entity
- publicly-traded companies

# CIP: Customer Information Required Before Account Opening

- At a minimum, the bank **must obtain** from each customer **before opening the account**:
  - Name
  - Date of birth (for individuals)
  - Residential Address
  - Identification number
- Based on its **risk assessment**, a bank **may require identifying information** in addition to the items above for certain customers or product lines



### CIP: Customer Verification

- Must verify customer identity within a reasonable period of time after the account is opened
  - Policies tend to require verification prior to account opening
  - Pre-acceptance is the time to verify identity for trust accounts
- The verification procedures must use the identifying information
  - Need not establish the accuracy of every element of identifying information obtained
  - But it must verify enough information to form a reasonable belief that it knows the true identity of the customer
  - Must describe when it will use documents, or non-documentary methods, or a combination of both

## CIP: Document Verification People

Unexpired government-issued form of identification

• Evidence of a customer's nationality or residence and bear a photograph or similar safeguard

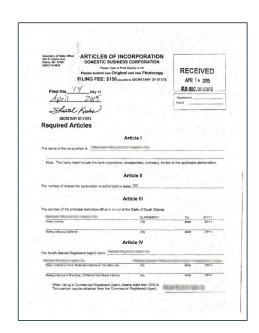
(e.g., driver's license, passport)

• Other forms of identification may be used (if, so should review more than a single document)



## CIP: Document Verification Entities

- Certified articles of incorporation
- An unexpired government-issued business license
- LLC/Partnership Agreement
- Trust instrument
- Letters of Office









## CIP: Non-Documentary Verification

• Banks are **not required** to use non-documentary methods

• If using non-documentary methods to verify a customer's identity **must** 

have procedures, which may include:

- Contacting a customer
- Obtaining a financial statement
- Checking references with other financial institutions
- Independently verifying the identity by **comparing** information provided by the customer with information obtained from a **consumer reporting agency**, **public database**, **or other source**

### CIP: Lack of Verification

When customer identification CANNOT be verified, procedures should describe:

- When **not** to open an account
- The terms under which a customer may use an account while the bank attempts to verify the customer's identity
- When the bank should **close an account** after attempts to verify a customer's identity have failed
- When the bank **should file a SAR** in accordance with applicable law and regulation

#### CIP: Other Procedures

- Recordkeeping Requirements and Document Retention
- Comparison with Government Lists
- Adequate Customer Notice
- Reliance on Another Financial Institution
- Use of Third Parties



### CIP: Customer Due Diligence (CDD)

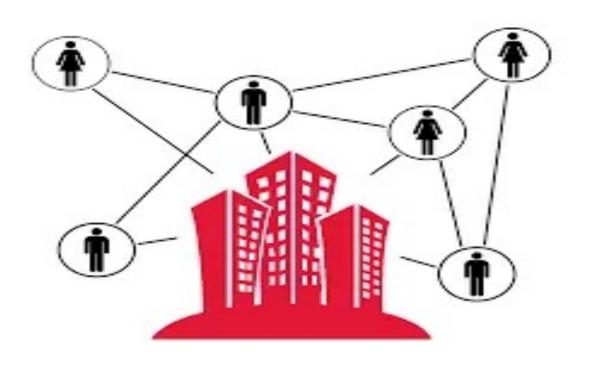
#### Written, risk-based procedures for conducting ongoing CDD:

- Understand the **nature** and **purpose** of the customer **relationship**
- Conduct **ongoing** monitoring:
  - for the purpose of identifying and reporting suspicious transactions
  - on a risk basis, to maintain and update customer information, including information regarding the beneficial owner(s) of legal entity customers
- Types of transactions expected of the customer as a baseline against which suspicious transactions are identified

# CIP: Beneficial Ownership Legal Entities

Establish and maintain written procedures that are reasonably designed to:

- Identify and verify beneficial owner(s) of legal entity customers
- Include such procedures in its antimoney laundering compliance program



## CIP: Beneficial Ownership Legal Entities

#### Legal Entities

- Corporation, LLC, LLP
- other entity that is created by the filing of a public document with a Secretary of State or other similar office
- a general partnership
- and any similar entity formed under the laws of a foreign jurisdiction

#### **NOT Legal Entities**

- **Trusts** (except statutory trusts by a filing with a Secretary of State or similar office)
- Banks and bank holding companies
- Insurance company
- Publicly traded company
- Governmental Entities

# OFAC: Office of Foreign Assets Control Reporting



- Separate/distinct "Program" from CIP
- Review government lists for "hits"
- Risk-based commensurate with institution profile
- "Should" have written OFAC compliance program
  - Identify higher-risk areas
  - Appropriate **internal controls** for screening & reporting
  - Independent testing for compliance
  - Designated bank employee(s) <u>responsible for OFAC</u> compliance
  - Training

## FinCEN §314(a) Reporting

- Separate/distinct from CIP/OFAC
- FinCEN Publishes Reports ~ 2 weeks
- Bank reviews list against current customers
  - · Customer w/in last 12 months
  - Transactions w/in last 6 months
- Must report positive matches w/in 2 weeks
- Contact SD Division of Banking to "get on the list"



## Other Required Reporting

- Currency Transaction Reporting
- Foreign Financial Account Reporting

#### Suspicious Activity Report

Knows, suspects, or has reason to suspect criminal violations:

- Any insider abuse
- \$5,000 transaction if suspect identified
- \$25,000 any transaction
- Suspicious transactions:
  - Related to money laundering
  - Designed to evade BSA
  - No business/lawful purpose, abnormal for client, no reasonable explanation



#### Suspicious Activity Report

- Whether to investigate and/or file SAR largely subjective
- Don't need proof just suspicious
- Lack of SARs filings may be suspicious to regulators





#### Suspicious Activity Report

- How long do you have to file a SAR?
  - Thirty (30) days if suspect identified
  - · Sixty (60) days if no suspect identified.
- SAR record retention requirement?
  - Five (5) years from date of SAR filing
- Who can know about the SAR filing?
  - "A SAR, an any information that would reveal the existence of a SAR, are confidential and shall not be disclosed except:
    - FinCEN, Law Enforcement, Relevant Regulators
    - Underlying facts OK
    - Within corporate structure as appropriate/necessary

## SAR: Policy & Procedure

What are the five (5) components of an effective SAR Monitoring & Reporting System?

- 1. Identification or alert of unusual activity
- 2. Managing alerts/red flags
- 3. SAR decision making
- 4. SAR completion and filing
- 5. Monitoring and SAR filing on continuing activity

# SAR: FinCEN Guidance/Consideration "Company Specific"

- "Red flags"
- Training
- Reports
- Escalation (including board or board committees)
- Investigative process procedures
- Not-filed SAR log
- Periodic resource review
- Confidentiality

- Law Enforcement Requests
- Segregation of Duties
- Advisory Key Terms







# Hypothetical Scenario Review



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### THANK YOU!



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