

COMMERCE

National Ovarian Cancer
and Prostate Cancer
Awareness Month



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ACCOUNTING

Forensic Accounting Catches Fraud and Exposes White-Collar Crimes

Fraud and abuse costs U.S. organizations more than \$400 billion annually, according to the Association of Certified Fraud Examiners.



COMPILED BY MILES Z. EPSTEIN
EDITOR, COMMERCE

WHITE-COLLAR CRIMINALS ARE always looking for new ways to steal time and money, but forensic accountants are catching many of them in the act, assisting clients and protecting their assets. Here are some case studies that show how CPAs are finding the crooks and uncovering their clandestine activities.



Marcum LLP
By Frank E. Rudewicz, J.D.,
CPP, CAMS, Partner

Marcum LLP was engaged to conduct an investigation into the actions of a former controller of an international professional services firm. The individual was a long-term employee who resigned unexpectedly and had access to the company's financial accounts and unchecked control over payment of company expenditures. The results of the investigation identified a total

in excess of \$4.1 million embezzled. The investigation consisted of multiple investigative tasks and forensic review to include forensic analysis of various credit card statements, bank statements, company documents and records; forensic analysis and retrieval of deleted information from a company computer previously assigned to the individual; physical surveillance; investigative due diligence and asset traces of the individual, family members and various others; and interviews of fact witnesses, including proprietors of retail establishments at which purchases were made.