

# Session # 2 Unicorns and Camels

**Navigating the Fraudtech Landscape** 

March 15, 2022



#### **Speakers**





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#### **What We Will Cover**







**The Current State of Fraud** 



**Recent Trends in Fraudtech** 



The Fraudtech Marketplace

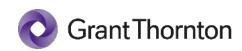


**Challenges of Navigating the Marketplace** 



**Recommendations and Leading Practices** 







#### **The Current State**

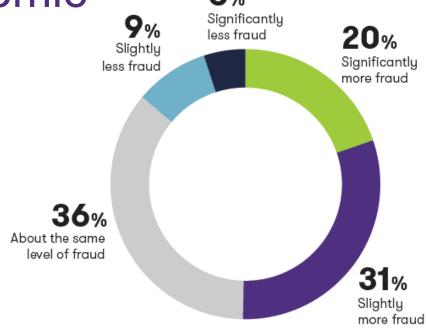
#### 51% of organizations have uncovered more fraud since the onset of the pandemic



... and 14% saw less fraud

Change in the amount of fraud uncovered



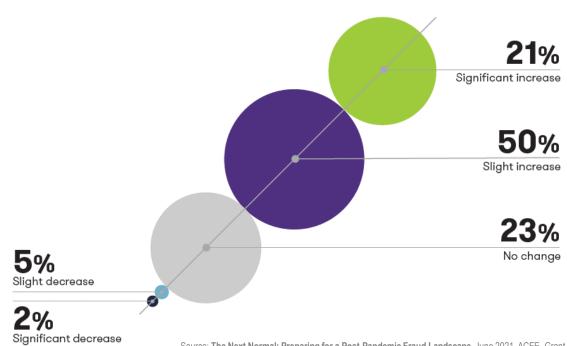


## 71% expect the level of fraud to increase over the next year

Only 7% think fraud will decrease over the next year

Expected change in the overall level of fraud impacting organizations





Source: The Next Normal: Preparing for a Post-Pandemic Fraud Landscape. June 2021. ACFE, Grant Thornton. <a href="https://www.grantthornton.com/library/survey-reports/acfe-survey-report.aspx">https://www.grantthornton.com/library/survey-reports/acfe-survey-report.aspx</a>



## The Response is Fraudtech

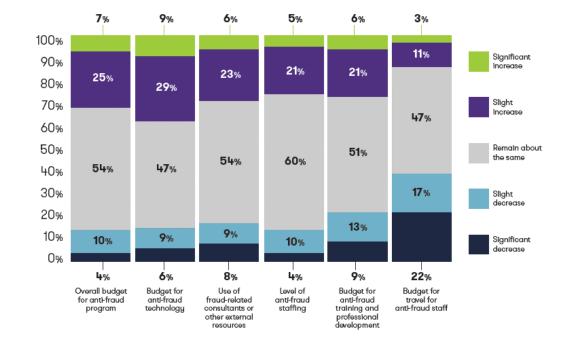


#### **Bigger Budgets for Fraudtech**

38% of organizations increased budget for anti-fraud technology for FY21

Technology is the most common area for increased investment in anti-fraud programs

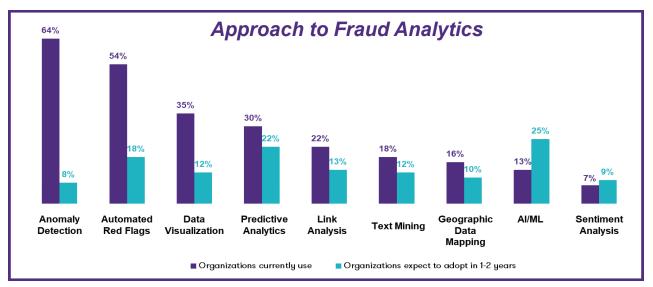
**Budgets for fiscal year 2021** compared to pre-pandemic years





### The Continued Rise of Fraud Analytics Using Data to Uncover Fraud

According to the ACFE, "Organizations that used 'proactive data monitoring' experienced a **33% reduction** in the total loss and duration of fraud schemes."





#### **Polling Question #4**



Does your organization currently use tools or technology to prevent and detect fraud?

- a. Yes
- b. No
- c. Unsure



## The Fraudtech Marketplace



#### **Highlights and Overview**



The Fraudtech marketplace is **complex**. It is full of companies offering similar yet oftentimes distinct products.

The Fraudtech marketplace is **constantly evolving**. We see regular additions, subtractions, and acquisitions of Fraudtech companies.





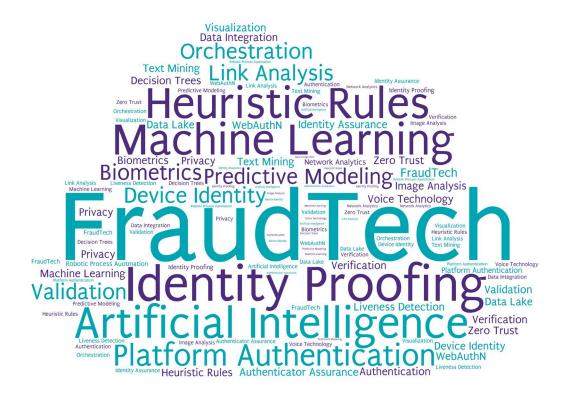
The Fraudtech market is **diverse**. We see companies with various growth strategies and products make waves in different ways.

#### **Marketplace Complexity**

The pure density of the anti-fraud vendor marketplace can leave shoppers stuck in the weeds.

Many times, there are countless companies offering the same or similar products to solve a company's most pressing Fraudtech need.

This makes the ability to distinguish between product types and their capabilities imperative.





#### **Marketplace Evolution**

#### An everchanging Fraudtech ecosystem

A variety of different start-up companies with unique product offerings and solutions has forced the market to adjust. Big players like the ones listed below are fast at work acquiring new technologies that will allow them to remain competitive and ahead of the curve.





#### **Marketplace Diversity**

#### A Zoo of Fraudtech Start-Ups

The sheer number of start-ups in Fraudtech inevitably make the Fraudtech space a web of complexity. Not only are start-ups bringing new products and solutions to market, but they are doing it with a variety of growth strategies.

While everyone has certainly heard of the classic "unicorn" when it comes to a start-up company, you may be less familiar with the market strategies of zebras, camels, and gazelles.



- Maintain Equity
- Be Profitable Immediately
- Collaborate with Competitors



- · Profitability Above All
- Lack Investor Base
- Volatile Markets (the desert)



- · Profitable and Sustainable
- Lacks Resources
- · Often describes African Start-Ups





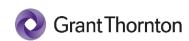
#### The Tech



## **Emerging Fraudtech Artificial Intelligence**

Ability of a computer to do tasks that are usually done by humans because they require human intelligence





#### **Emerging Fraudtech Image Analysis**

I Identify duplicates, recognize patterns, and compare multiple versions of images to detect similarities or anomalies





## **Emerging Fraudtech Voice Biometrics**

Using voice to help authenticate identity and detect potential deception

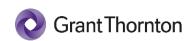


#### **Polling Question #5**



Does your organization use fraud detection analytics or scoring technology?

- a. Yes
- b. No
- c. Unsure





## Navigating the Marketplace



## **Fraud Tech Investment Challenges**

- Lots of Providers
- · Rapidly Changing
- Market Size





Demand from executives

- Efficiency and Accuracy
- Latest Technology
- Reduce False Positives and Friction
- Unrealistic Expectations

- **Budget Complications**
- Siloed Organizational Structures
- · Lack of Intelligence Sharing





Technical considerations

- Buy vs. Build
- Orchestration and Integration
- Configurability vs. Customization
- Tech Support and Maintenance





# Recommendations and Leading Practices

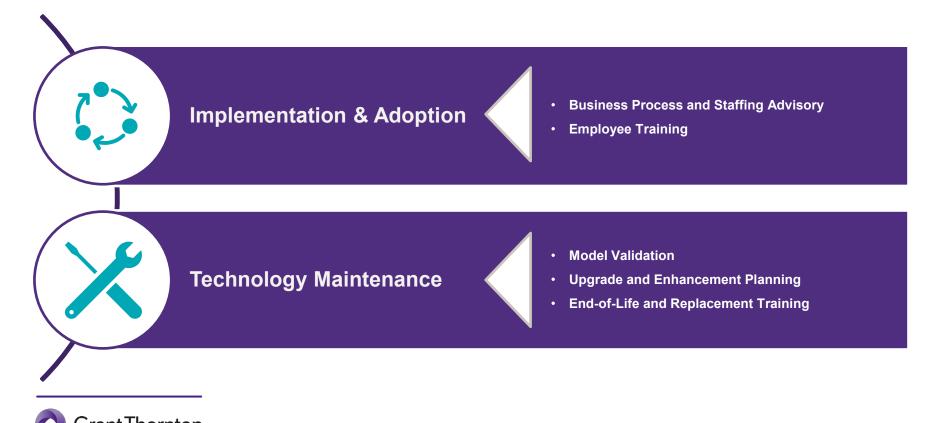


## **Fraud Tech Investment Solutions**





## **Fraud Tech Investment Solutions**



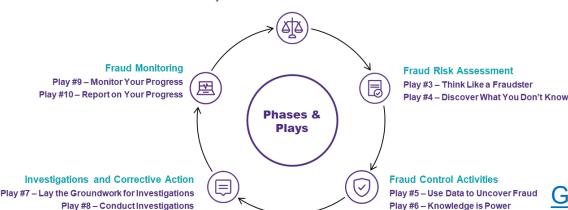
#### The Anti-Fraud Playbook

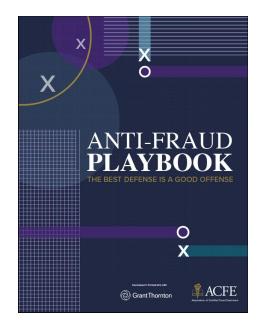
The playbook provides **practical guidance for organizations looking to begin, advance, or benchmark their fraud risk management programs against best practices**. The playbook includes key questions, checklists, and insights.

Fraud Risk Governance

Play #1 – Understand Where You Are & Where You Want to Be

Play #2 - Create a Culture





Download a free copy

GrantThornton.com/fraudplaybook



#### **Any final questions?**







#### **Trial by Fire**

Lessons learned fighting fraud during a pandemic

March 15, 2022



#### **What We Will Cover**





- 1
- **Pandemic Fraud Overview**
- 2
- **Lessons Learned**
- 3
- **Recommendations**
- 4
- Q&A



#### **State of Fraud**

#### **Overview**

Fraud is on the rise, both in frequency and in cost



Risks continue to shift as technology and security evolve



Organizations need to focus on both internal and external fraud threats





#### **Why Does Fraud Occur?**

Fraud occurs in a variety of fashions is generally due to three specific factors that make up the *Fraud Triangle*:

- Motivation the reason for committing fraud (greed, revenge, survival)
- Rationalization the mindset of the fraudster that justifies them to commit fraud
- Opportunity the situation that enables fraud to occur, often when internal controls are weak or nonexistent





#### **Pandemic Fraud Triangle**



#### **Opportunity**

- Access to systems and data necessary to perpetrate fraud
- Ineffective controls for a remote work force
- Reduced focus on segregation of duties



**Pressure** 

- New employees or current employee's spouses may have been unemployed recently
- Funding sources may have decreased, making it more difficult to obtain funding required to hit employee targets



**Rationalization** 

- Justification that the money is only being borrowed or will be paid back when situation improves
- May feel entitled to more compensation after a year without raises or bonuses



#### **Pandemic Fraud Schemes**

The Association of Certified Fraud Examiners (ACFE) found that the top five fraud schemes currently observed due to the economic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic include:



Cyber Fraud



Identity Theft



Payment Fraud



Unemployment Fraud



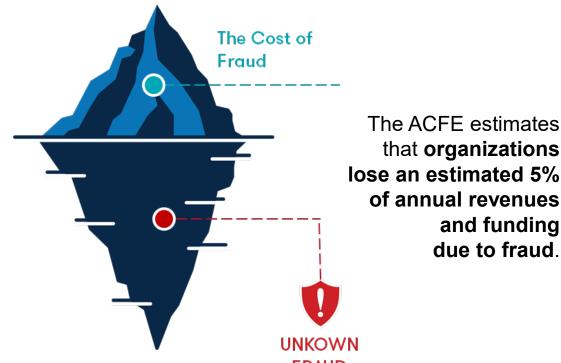
Vendor & Seller Fraud



#### The cost of fraud

Fraud is like the proverbial iceberg; the deceptive nature of fraud means that it is unknown until discovered, leading to potential 'submerged' or unknown frauds beneath the surface.

According to the Association of Certified Fraud Examiners (ACFE), CFEs estimate that organizations around the world lose an estimated 5% of their annual revenues and funding to fraud. Applied the 2019 Gross World Product (GWP), this amounts to \$4.3 trillion in potential global fraud losses.



and funding

due to fraud

#### **Polling Question #6**



Did your organization see a change in the amount of fraud attempts during the COVID-19 pandemic?

- a. Yes, it went up
- b. Yes, it went down
- c. No change



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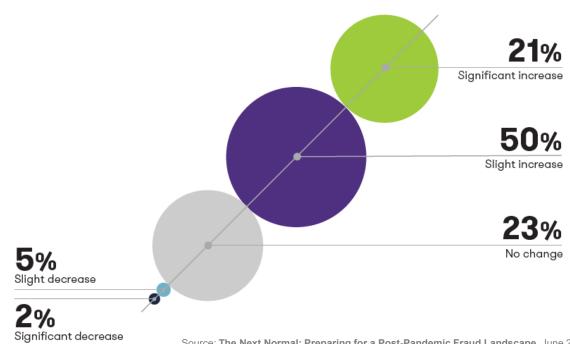


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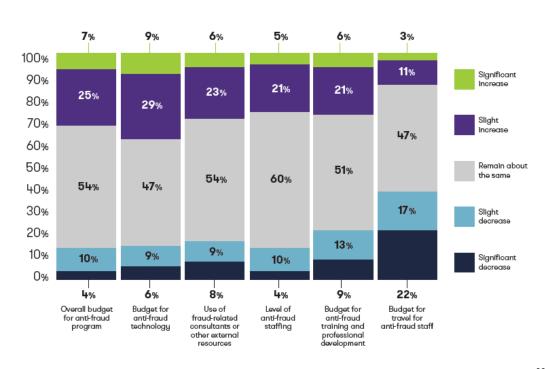
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Budgets for fiscal year 2021 compared to pre-pandemic years







# Insight into the Next Normal

Observations and Lessons Learned From Pandemic Oversight





The fraud problem is actually worse than what you read about in the press.



The pandemic **delivered soft fraud targets** in the form of government stimulus funding rolled out urgently and without fully realized fraud controls, and companies rapidly adapting their business processes with limited opportunity to deploy new protections.



While the true scope of fraud in these programs is still being determined, up to 50% of all pandemic unemployment insurance benefits may have been paid improperly.



#### WHAT CAN YOU DO?

<u>Enhance Your Fraud Risk Assessment</u>. Reevaluate how your business processes are operating in the current environment, such as how remote or hybrid work arrangements may change the way existing controls are executed.





The pandemic indoctrinated a new generation of fraud actors turning to new commercial targets.



A new generation of fraud actors whet their appetites on the gateway drug of stimulus program fraud and **are turning their attention toward commercial targets** as stimulus funding begins to fade.



Cyber-enabled fraud risks like ransomware, business email compromise and account takeovers were all on the rise before 2020, and **legions of remote workers have expanded** the attack surface.



#### WHAT CAN YOU DO?

<u>Improve collaboration between cybersecurity and fraud teams</u>. As fraud risks are increasingly enabled by technology, organizations need to improve communication between internal silos, especially between cybersecurity and fraud teams.





# Organized crime in the fraud risk landscape is increasing.



International organized crime rings targeted unemployment programs in many states. Fraud rings share intelligence that helps them make more money, better elude detection, and carry out more diverse and complicated strategies for committing fraud.

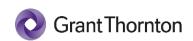


It is estimated that at least 70% of the money stolen by impostors ultimately left the country, much of it ending up in the hands of criminal syndicates in China, Nigeria, Russia and elsewhere.



#### WHAT CAN YOU DO?

<u>Monitor fraud threat intelligence</u>. In order to stay proactive, organizations must constantly monitor external fraud threat intelligence for indicators of fraud compromise and take action to mitigate new and emerging threats.





Regular monitoring and agility proved beneficial to investigating the new fraud landscape.



Agencies struggled with fraud prevention efforts in many cases because they were unable to capture the right data and struggled with outdated legacy IT infrastructure.

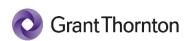


Not every transaction should be treated equal. High-risk transactions should be correctly identified and measured through risk scoring techniques; allowing enhanced rigor and resources to be applied to the riskiest transactions.



#### WHAT CAN YOU DO?

<u>Upgrade Your Fraud Management Tools</u>. Organizations need to adapt and monitor their antifraud technologies and systems to deal with the traditional fraud attempts they have always seen while simultaneously reacting to the new wave of fraud brought on by the pandemic.





Identity-based crimes have skyrocketed, with fraud actors devising new ways to be imposters.



**Identity-based crimes became a common method for criminals** to apply for multiple benefits simultaneously, dramatically increasing their payday.



Synthetic identity crimes can be especially challenging. Since the fraud actor created the identity, **they have all the answers to circumvent certain fraud controls**, such as knowledge-based authentication or multi-factor authentication codes.



#### WHAT CAN YOU DO?

<u>Upgrade Your Identity Verification Solutions</u>. Evaluate your risk for synthetic identity crime and update your identity verification and authentication technologies over the coming months to help ease into the next normal of business operations.



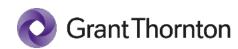
## **Polling Question #7**



Did your organization update its antifraud strategy based on any changes in the risk landscape resulting from COVID-19?

- a. Yes
- b. Partially
- c. No







The best defense is a good offense



## **Proactive Fraud Solutions**



#### **PLAN**

Understand the current state of your fraud risk management program compared to leading practices, guidance, and your peers. Develop a roadmap and strategy to close gaps and outline how you will achieve your ideal future state, ensuring resources are effectively utilized in areas of high-impact and high-priority in the future.

- · Maturity Assessing
- · Benchmarking & Peer Analyses
- Strategy & Roadmap

#### **ASSESS**

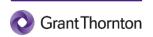
Discover insights into the universe of fraud risks. Identify what areas are well controlled and what areas may need control enhancements. Seek to drive antifraud investment decisions to areas that are both under-controlled and subject to increasing fraud threads, providing the highest ROI.

- Horizon Scan
- · Fraud Risk Assessment
- · Anti-Fraud Culture Assessment
- · Fraud Threat Intelligence

#### **RESPOND & MONITOR**

Proactively close identified gaps through targeted mitigating risk response that states on top of both current and emerging risks as the risk landscape continues to evolve.

- · Anti-Fraud Training & Awareness Initiatives
- Fraud Performance Metrics & Evaluations
- Fraud Analytics, Model Development & Governance
- Technology Assessment, Selection & Implementation



# **COSO's Fraud Risk Management Principles**



**Fraud Risk Governance:** The organization establishes and communicates a Fraud Risk Management program



Fraud Risk Assessment: The organization performs comprehensive fraud risk assessment



**Fraud Control Activity:** The organization selects, develops, and deploys preventive and detective fraud control activities



**Fraud Investigation & Corrective Action:** The organization establishes a communication process to obtain information about potential fraud and deploys a coordinated approach to investigation and corrective



Fraud Risk Management Monitoring Activities: The organization selects, develops, and performs ongoing evaluations

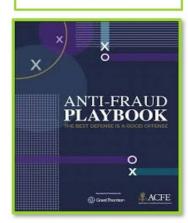


# **The Anti-Fraud Playbook**

The playbook is intended to provide practical guidance for organizations looking to begin, advance, or benchmark their Fraud Risk Management (FRM) programs against best practices.

It draws on insights from the COSO Guide and seeks to clarify and operationalize the concepts put forward in that guidance. The playbook includes **key questions**, **checklists**, **and insights that will enhance your FRM program and ultimately facilitate effective and proactive FRM at your organization**.





Grant Thornton & ACFE publish the Anti-Fraud Playbook



Available at **GrantThornton.com** or

# The Playbook

### **Anti-Fraud**

The government-wide playbook is intended to provide practical guidance for looking to begin, advance, or benchmark their Fraud Risk Management (FRM) programs against best practices.

It draws on insights from the Government Accountability Office (GAO) Framework for Managing Fraud Risks in Federal Programs and seeks to clarify and operationalize the concepts put forward in that guidance. The playbook includes key questions, checklists, and insights that will enhance your FRM program and ultimately facilitate effective and proactive FRM at your organization.





## **Threat Intelligence**

Your **ATTACK** surface extends far beyond your network perimeter.



Challenging to see what's outside of your network

- Network security tools aren't designed for it.
- Challenging to safely get access to the places that matter.



Lack of context or relevance

- How can I VERIFY that a threat is relevant to my business?
- · Lack of expertise.



Difficult decisionmaking

- What should I do, what is the path forward?
- What is the appropriate response?



## **Benefits of Threat Intelligence**



#### **Proactive**

**Risk Identification** 

- Gain access to where the threat actors are
- Visibility into the known, unknown, and emerging schemes facing your organization

# Grant Thornton

#### **Actionable**

Intelligence & Insight

- Expert-curated analysis
- Risk-based prioritization of threats facing your organization
- Actionable recommendations on next steps to close weaknesses or gaps

#### **Enhanced**

**Decision-Making & Planning** 

- Structured roles and responsibilities for handling digital threats
- Structured communication between contractors, law enforcement, states, and other program partners

## **Any final questions?**





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