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FRAUD RED FLAGS

Employees play a crucial role in the detection of fraud occurring within an organization. According to the Association of Certified Fraud Examiners, in its 2022 report on occupational fraud, **42**% of frauds were detected by tips and **more than half** of all tips came from employees.

These Q&As will help you identify potential red flags. Let's all become fraud fighters!

- Does an employee appear to be living beyond their means?
 - Individuals should be observant of signs of employees spending far more than they are earning.
- Has an employee failed to take personal time off, including leave of a continuous week or more?
 - Employees should be required to take time off because certain fraud schemes require employees to continually manipulate records.
- Do employees feel intimidated or bullied?
 - Employees should be comfortable questioning directives they feel are unethical or non-compliant.

- Does an employee appear to be too close to a vendor or subcontractor?
 - Employees who are associated with a vendor should be monitored for potential conflicts of interest.
- Does an employee appear to control a process or be unwilling to share duties?
 - No one person should control all steps involved in a financial process, responsibilities should be properly separated.
- Do units involved in financial activities appear to be inadequately staffed?
 - Financial units should be properly staffed to allow separation of duties.

Where can I find more information?

- <u>USF Regulation 5.001</u>: Waste, Fraud, or Financial Mismanagement Prevention and Detection.
- USF Office of Internal Audit website: https://www.usf.edu/audit/

How can I report potential fraud or abuse?

- Contact the USF Office of Internal Audit at (813) 974-2705
- Report activities anonymously through the EthicsPoint hotline at (866) 974-8411