HOW THE ORGANIZATIONAL SENTENCING GUIDELINES AFFECT COMPLIANCE AND ETHICS PROGRAMS

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"CARROT AND STICK" Operation of the Criminal Penalty Structure

- Encourage partnership in crime control
- Reward self-policing, self-reporting, and voluntary disclosure



FINE RANGE §§8C2.7; 8A1.1 n.2

eriousness of the Offense

Culpability

Fine Range

BASE FINE MULTIPLIERS

Minimum

Maximum

Environmental, Export, Food/Drug Violations



DETERMINING CULPABILITY SCORE §8C2.5

 BASE OFFENSE LEVEL 	5 POINTS
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- Level of Authority + 5/+4/+3
- Size of Organization + 2 or + 1
- Prior History + 2 or + 1
- Violation of an Order + 2 or + 1
- Obstruction of Justice + 3
- Effective Program to Prevent and
 Detect Violations of Law
- Self-Reporting, Cooperation and 5/ 2
 Acceptance of Responsibility 1

INCENTIVE STRUCTURE: WHAT'S IT WORTH?







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GENESIS OF 2004 AMENDMENTS

- Decade of compliance and business ethics practice
 - Caremark case and corporate governance
 - Expanded field of practitioners
- Legislative and regulatory responses to corporate scandals
 - Sarbanes-Oxley Act, SEC, NYSE
- Recommendations of Ad Hoc Advisory Group
 - See October 7, 2003, Report at http://www.ussc.gov/corp/advgrprpt/advgrprpt.htm

OVERVIEW OF CHANGES

- Stand-alone Guideline for "Compliance and Ethics Program"
- Promote ethical conduct & organizational culture of compliance
- Seven minimum steps expanded
- Small organizations addressed
- Assessing risks of criminal conduct made explicit
- Cooperation credit not contingent on privilege waive

§8B2.1(a) CRITERIA FOR EFFECTIVE PROGRAM

Exercise due diligence in fulfilling seven minimum requirements at §8B2.1(b)(2)

 Promote ethical conduct and organizational culture that encourages a commitment to compliance with the law

§8B2.1(b)(1) STANDARDS AND PROCEDURES

"[E]stablish standards and procedures to prevent and detect criminal conduct"

- "[S]tandards and procedures" = "standards of conduct and internal controls that are reasonably capable of reducing the likelihood of criminal conduct"
 - See Application Note 1

§8B2.1(b)(2) PROGRAM RESPONSIBLITY

Governing Authority

Must be knowledgeable and exercise oversight

High-Level Personnel

- Overall responsibility to ensure effectiveness of program
- Senior Management or equivalent
 - See Application Note 3(b) §8A1.2

Operational Responsibility

- Adequate resources and appropriate authority
- Periodic reporting
- May be delegated by high-level personnel but then direct access to governing authority required

§8B2.1(b)(3) PERSONNEL SCREENING

Screen Substantial Authority Personnel

See Application Note 3(c) of §8A1.2 for SAR Definition

Applicable Screening Standard

"[O]rganization knew or should have known [individual] had engaged in illegal activities or other conduct inconsistent with an effective . . . program"

Application Note 4: Factors for Screening

- Relatedness of prior misconduct to specific responsibilities
- Recency of prior misconduct
- Frequency

§8B2.1(b)(4) TRAINING

- Training Now a Requirement
 - Training in standards and procedures for compliance
- Extends to All Levels of Organization
 - Directors and senior management
 - Employees
 - Agents, as appropriate

§8B2.1(b)(5)(A)(B): EVALUATION, MONITORING, AUDITING

- Ensure program is followed
 - By monitoring and auditing
 - To detect criminal conduct
- Periodically evaluate program effectiveness

§8B2.1(b)(5)(C) REPORTIING SYSTEMS

- Maintain and publicize a reporting system
 - To be used by employees and agents
 - To report potential or actual criminal conduct
 - To seek guidance on potential conduct
- Reporting systems may include
 - Mechanisms for anonymity or confidentiality or
 - Any other system organization may devise to meet goal

§8B2.1(b)(6): PROMOTE PROGRAM

- **Appropriate Incentives**
- **Appropriate Disciplinary Measures**

§8B2.1(b)(7): APPROPRIATE RESPONSE TO DETECTED VIOLATIONS

§8B2.1(c): ASSESSING RISK OF CRIMINAL CONDUCT

Explicit new requirement

 Design, implement, or modify application of seven requirements within organization to reduce risk of occurrence of criminal conduct

Guidance in Application Note 6

- Nature and seriousness of conduct
- Prior history of organization
- Likelihood of violations given nature of business

FOCUS ON SMALL ORGANIZATIONS

- Modified requirements for smaller organizations
 - Application Note 2(C)(iii)
- Suggests large organizations encourage small organizations to promote ethics and compliance programs, especially with potential and actual vendors
 - Application Note 2(C)(ii)
- Establishes a rebuttable presumption if high-level involvement in offense
 - See §8C2.5(f)(3)(A)

WAIVER OF PRIVILEGES

- Addition to Commentary to §8C2.5(f); See Note 12
- "Waiver of [privileges] is not generally required in order to qualify for credit for cooperation"
- But there may be times when necessary "in order to provide timely and thorough disclosure of all information known to the organization"

