

Express Memo



Express Risk Survey - Fraud Risk Checkup

#2021-06

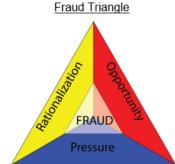
Report Date: 03/03/2021

Background

According to Donald Cressey, a renowned American sociologist and criminologist, the following 3 factors must all be present for fraud to occur:

- Opportunity a weak internal control system, poor security over company property, little fear of exposure and likelihood of detection, or unclear policies with regard to acceptable behavior.
- 2. Pressure financial need or greed.
- Rationalization belief that the action is necessary, harmless, and/or justified.

This theory is known as the "Fraud Triangle".



With the COVID-19 pandemic, there has been an increase in the opportunities, pressures, and rationalizations that contribute to the risk of fraud. Opportunities have increased with the shift in focus to operational measures rather than compliance and due to staffing shortages resulting from illness. Pressures or financial needs may have increased due to job loss, inability to pay rent/mortgage, or increased medical bills. The increased pressures result in the rationalization for committing the fraud.

Objective/Scope/Methodology

The Express Risk Survey - Fraud Risk Checkup was created to assist the City in identifying, assessing, and addressing its risks related to fraud. This survey was distributed to the City's 15 Department Directors for completion on February 3, 2021 and Internal Audit received all responses by February 23, 2021.

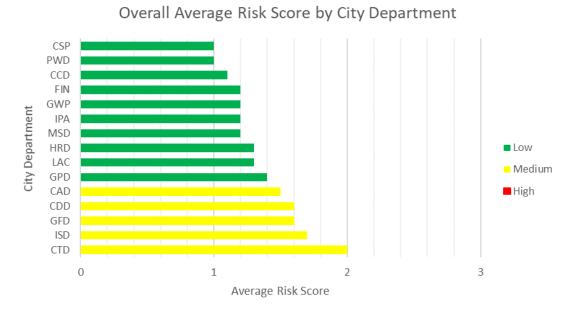
Once department directors completed the survey, Internal Audit provided a graphical summary of the department's results along with the Risks and Mitigation Measures Checklist to assist the department in addressing their risks. Internal Audit has summarized the survey results from all responding departments which are included in this memo. The detailed methodology is attached as Appendix A, the Citywide Survey Results by Question is attached as Appendix B, a sample of the report provided to departments is attached as Appendix C, and the survey questionnaire is attached as Appendix D.

By the Numbers

0	5	10
Departments with an Overall	Departments with an Overall	Departments with an Overall
"High" Risk Score	"Medium" Risk Score	"Low" Risk Score

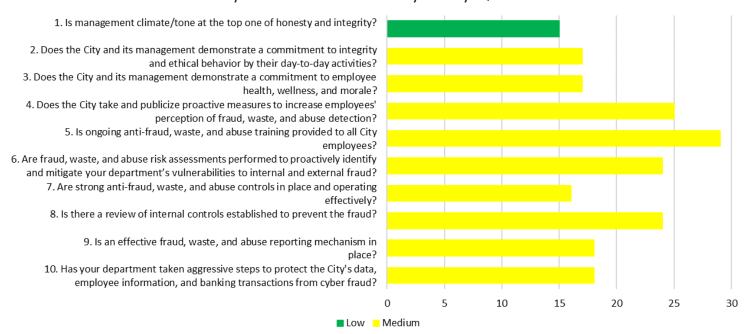
Risk Assessment Results

The Overall Average Risk Score by City Department chart below shows the risk assessment result based upon the average City Department risk score. Ten departments were categorized as low risk and 5 departments were categorized as medium risk. The average risk score was 1.4 with the lowest being 1 and the highest 2.



The Citywide Total Risk Scores by Survey Question chart below shows the risk assessment result based upon the aggregated City department risk scores. One risk question was categorized as low risk and 9 risk questions were categorized as medium risk. The average total risk score was 20.3 with the lowest being 15 and the highest 29.

Citywide Total Risk Scores by Survey Question



Detailed Risk Assessment Results

The table below summarizes the Citywide total risk assessment result by survey question.

Citywide Risk Score Legend: ■ Low (1-15) ■ Medium (16-30) ■ High (31-45)

Ref	Description	Total Risk Score
1.	Is management climate/tone at the top one of honesty and integrity?	15
2.	Does the City and its management demonstrate a commitment to integrity and ethical behavior by their day-to-day activities?	17
3.	Does the City and its management demonstrate a commitment to employee health, wellness, and morale?	17
4.	Does the City take and publicize proactive measures to increase employees' perception of fraud, waste, and abuse detection?	25
5.	ls ongoing anti-fraud, waste, and abuse training provided to all City employees?	29
6.	Are fraud, waste, and abuse risk assessments performed to proactively identify and mitigate your department's vulnerabilities to internal and external fraud?	24
7.	Are strong anti-fraud, waste, and abuse controls in place and operating effectively?	16
8.	Is there a review of internal controls established to prevent the fraud?	24
9.	ls an effective fraud, waste, and abuse reporting mechanism in place?	18
10.	Has your department taken aggressive steps to protect the City's data, employee information, and banking transactions from cyber fraud?	18

These survey results will also be used for Internal Audit's ongoing risk assessment to identify potential areas for audit.

Recommendations and Action Plan

It is recommended that City and department management address the higher risk areas with the appropriate mitigating controls, continue to assess the fraud related risks and take appropriate actions.

Distribution List

For Action	For Information
Aram Adjemian, City Clerk	Roubik Golanian, Interim City Manager
Elena Bolbolian, Director of Innovation, Performance and Audit	Audit Committee
Jason Bradford, Chief Information Officer	City Council
Onnig Bulanikian, Director of Community Services & Parks	
Matthew Doyle, Director of Human Resources	
Yazdan Emrani, Director of Public Works	
Michele Flynn, Director of Finance	
Michael Garcia, City Attorney	
Philip Lanzafame, Director of Community Development	
Silvio Lanzas, Fire Chief	
Rafi Manoukian, City Treasurer	
Carl Povilaitis, Police Chief	
Gary Shaffer, Director of Library, Arts & Culture	
John Takhtalian, Deputy City Manager	
Mark Young, Acting General Manager - GWP	

Appendix A: Detailed Methodology

Methodology

The Fraud Risk Checkup is part of the Express Risk Surveys performed by Internal Audit.

Internal Audit performed best practice research and developed risk related questions to include within a survey distributed to management. The survey was developed to identify key risks and mitigating factors implemented by management.

Each question had two parts, the first part was the risk question and was followed-up with a mitigating control question. Each risk question had three available answers (Yes, No, or Not Sure). Each mitigating control question asked the respondent to select all controls applicable to their department. The risk and mitigating control question scores were added together to determine the department's collective risk score. For the risk question, when a risk or potential risk was identified, it received a risk score of 3. When a risk was not present, the risk question received a score of 1. For the mitigating control question, when the respondent identified that their department had a risk, but implemented one or more of the mitigating controls, it received a score of negative 1. When no risk was identified or no mitigating controls were present, the mitigating control question received a score of 0. The lowest available score was 1.

Ref#	Question	Answer	Score
1	Risk	No/Not Sure	3
1a	Mitigating Control	Yes	-1
Total			2

The Citywide risk level was determined based upon the department scores as defined below. The Citywide score is the aggregate of the departments' scores. The risk level was determined based upon the total risk score as a percentage of the maximum available risk score.

Risk Level	Department Risk Score	Citywide Risk Score
Low	1	1-15
Medium	2	16-30
High	3	31-45

Survey Limitation

The risk score was calculated based upon responses received from departments. Departments were only required to have implemented one of the mitigating factors in order to reduce their risk score by 1 point. It should be noted that department responses were not verified by Internal Audit.

Appendix B: Citywide Survey Results by Question

The matrix below represents the Citywide survey results by question.

Ref	Question	Yes	No	Not Sure
1.	Is management climate/tone at the top one of honesty and integrity?	15	0	0
1a.	Employees are periodically surveyed to determine the extent to which they believe management acts with honesty and integrity;	2	13	
	Performance goals are realistic and clearly communicated;	13	2	
	Fraud, waste, and abuse prevention goals have been incorporated into the performance measures that are used to evaluate managers;	9	6	
	The organization established, implemented, and tested a process for oversight of fraud risks by the board of directors or others charged with governance (e.g., the audit committee).	9	6	
2.	Does the City and its management demonstrate a commitment to integrity and ethical behavior by their day-to-day activities?	14	0	1
2a.	Departmental employees are familiar with the City's Employee Code of Ethics;	13	2	
	City's Employee Code of Ethics is posted in a common area within your department and is available on the City's intranet;	11	4	
	Departmental employees are familiar with the City's Administration Policy Manual 4-35: Policy on Fraud, Waste and Abuse;	11	4	
	Ethics Trainings are conducted on a periodic basis;	7	8	
	Department employees are required to complete an annual conflict of interest statement;	11	4	
	Department employees are required to sign an acknowledgment that they have received the City's Code of Ethics and that they understand it.	7	8	
3.	Does the City and its management demonstrate a commitment to employee health, wellness, and morale?	14	0	1
3a.	Employee support programs are in place to assist employees struggling with addiction, mental/emotional health, family, or financial problems;	13	2	
	An open-door policy is in place that allows employees to speak freely about pressures, providing management the opportunity to alleviate such pressures before they become acute;	14	1	
	Regular, anonymous surveys are conducted to assess employee morale.	1	14	

Appendix B: Citywide Survey Results by Question (cont'd)

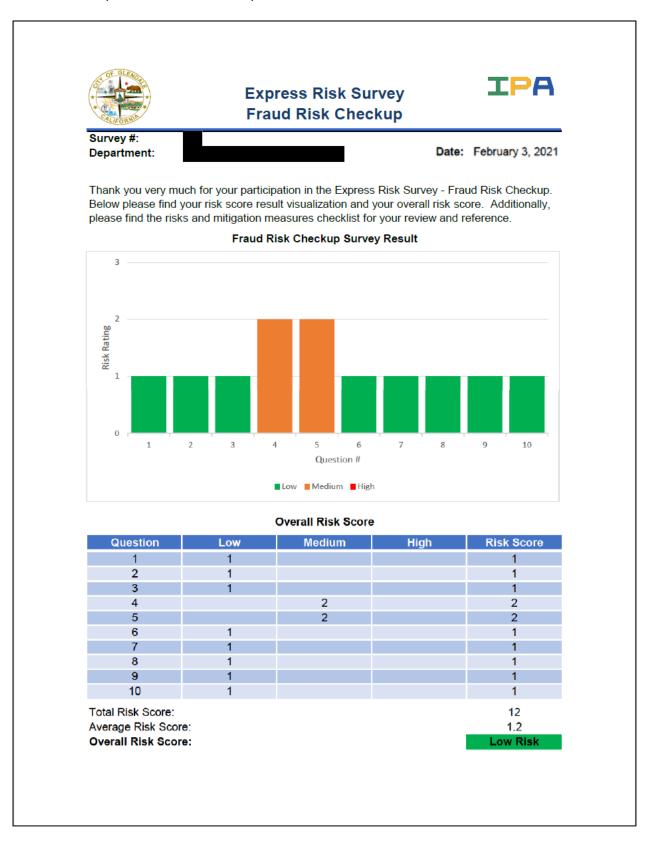
Ref	Question	Yes	No	Not Sure
4.	Does the City take and publicize proactive measures to increase employees' perception of fraud, waste, and abuse detection?	7	2	6
4a.	Possible fraudulent, wasteful, or abusive conduct is aggressively sought out, rather than dealt with passively;	6	9	
	Surprise fraud, waste, and abuse audits are performed in addition to regularly scheduled audits;	3	12	
	Data analytics techniques are used to proactively search for fraud, waste, and abuse and the use of such techniques have been made known throughout the organization;	4	11	
	Managers actively review the controls, processes, accounts, or transactions under their purview for adherence to company policies and expectations.	12	3	
5.	Is ongoing anti-fraud, waste, and abuse training provided to all City employees?	3	7	5
5a.	Employees have been trained on the Fraud Triangle Model - Fraud is likely to result from a combination of motivation, opportunity, and rationalization;	1	14	
	Employees understand what constitutes fraud, waste, and abuse;	8	7	
	The costs of fraud, waste, and abuse to the City and everyone in it—including lost revenues, adverse publicity, potential job loss, and decreased morale and productivity—have been made clear to all employees;	8	7	
	The City and its departments have a protocol for handling confidential complaints;	12	3	
	Employees know where to seek advice when faced with uncertain ethical decisions, and they believe that they can speak freely;	12	3	
	A policy of zero-tolerance for fraud has been communicated to employees through words and actions.	13	2	
6.	Are fraud, waste, and abuse risk assessments performed to proactively identify and mitigate your department's vulnerabilities to internal and external fraud?	9	4	2
6a.	Department performs periodic fraud risk assessments;	6	9	
	Department fraud risk assessment includes inherent fraud risk;	4	11	
	Department fraud risk assessment includes likelihood and impact of fraud and risk response;	4	11	
	Proactive steps are taken on a periodic basis to assess department risks and improve internal controls related to potential fraud.	12	3	

Appendix B: Citywide Survey Results by Question (cont'd)

Ref	Question	Yes	No	Not Sure
7.	Are strong anti-fraud, waste, and abuse controls in place and operating effectively?	14	0	1
7a.	Proper separation of duties;	15	0	
	Use of authorizations;	14	1	
	Physical safeguards;	11	4	
	Job/Assignment rotations;	9	6	
	Mandatory vacations;	1	14	
	Granting and periodic review of employees' access rights to each applications system is based on their roles and job functions;	12	3	
	Departments should require individual user ids and passwords for all system applications and prohibit employees from using generic user ids and/or sharing passwords.	7	8	
8.	Is there a review of internal controls established to prevent the fraud?	9	1	5
8a.	Processes have been established to record, and analyze all fraud incidents;	6	9	
	Internal controls related to the fraud incident are reviewed for potential improvement;	10	5	
	Effective monitoring and review procedures that will promptly detect acts of wrongdoing should prevention efforts fail.	8	7	
9.	Is an effective fraud, waste, and abuse reporting mechanism in place?	13	0	2
9a.	Employees have been informed on how to communicate concerns about known or potential wrongdoing;	12	3	
	One or more reporting channels (e.g., City's third-party Employee Hotline, dedicated email inbox, or web-based form) are available to employees;	14	1	
	Employees trust that they can report concerns regarding ethics, fraud or questionable business activities anonymously and/or confidentially (where legally permissible) and without fear of reprisal through the City's Employee Hotline in accordance with Administrative Policy Manual 4-33: Policy Prohibiting Retaliation;	13	2	
	It has been made clear to employees that reports of suspicious activity will be promptly and thoroughly evaluated;	13	2	
	Reporting policies and mechanisms extend to vendors, customers, and other outside parties.	6	9	
10.	Has your department taken aggressive steps to protect the City's data, employee information, and banking transactions from cyber fraud?	13	0	2
10a.	Video conferencing is initiated by the City through ISD authorized tools, such as WebEx or Microsoft Teams;	14	1	
	Staff are directed to only download items from verified sources and never click unusual URLs or attachments;	13	2	
	Staff are requested to utilize a strong password for home Wi-Fi;	9	6	
	Staff are requested to avoid public and unprotected networks;	9	6	
	Staff are limited to accessing the City's network via a virtual private network (VPN).	11	4	

Appendix C: Sample Departmental Report

The report below represents a sample department specific report and complete risk and mitigation measures checklist provided to each respondent.



Appendix C: Sample Departmental Report (cont'd)

Risks and Mitigation Measures Checklist

	Question	Mitigating Factors
1	Is management climate/tone	□ Employees are periodically surveyed to determine the extent to which they believe management acts with honesty and integrity; □ Performance goals are realistic and clearly communicated; □ Fraud, waste, and abuse prevention goals have been incorporated into the performance measures that are used to evaluate managers; □ The organization established, implemented, and tested a process for oversight of fraud risks by the board of directors or others charged with governance (e.g., the audit committee).
2	Does the City and its management demonstrate a commitment to integrity and ethical behavior by their day-to-day activities?	□ Departmental employees are familiar with the City's Employee Code of Ethics; □ City's Employee Code of Ethics is posted in a common area within your department and is available on the City's intranet; □ Departmental employees are familiar with the City's Administration Policy Manual 4-35: Policy on Fraud, Waste and Abuse; □ Ethics Trainings are conducted on a periodic basis; □ Department employees are required to complete an annual conflict of interest statement; □ Department employees are required to sign an acknowledgment that they have received the City's Code of Ethics and that they understand it.
3	Does the City and its management demonstrate a commitment to employee health, wellness, and morale?	 □ Employee support programs are in place to assist employees struggling with addiction, mental/emotional health, family, or financial problems; □ An open-door policy is in place that allows employees to speak freely about pressures, providing management the opportunity to alleviate such pressures before they become acute; □ Regular, anonymous surveys are conducted to assess employee morale.
4	Does the City take and publicize proactive measures to increase employees' perception of fraud, waste, and abuse detection?	□ Possible fraudulent, wasteful, or abusive conduct is aggressively sought out, rather than dealt with passively; □ Surprise fraud, waste, and abuse audits are performed in addition to regularly scheduled audits; □ Data analytics techniques are used to proactively search for fraud, waste, and abuse and the use of such techniques have been made known throughout the organization; □ Managers actively review the controls, processes, accounts, or transactions under their purview for adherence to company policies and expectations.
5	Is ongoing anti-fraud, waste, and abuse training provided to all City employees?	□ Employees have been trained on the Fraud Triangle Model - Fraud is likely to result from a combination of motivation, opportunity, and rationalization; □ Employees understand what constitutes fraud, waste, and abuse; □ The costs of fraud, waste, and abuse to the City and everyone in it—including lost revenues, adverse publicity, potential job loss, and decreased morale and productivity—have been made clear to all employees; □ The City and its departments have a protocol for handling confidential complaints; □ Employees know where to seek advice when faced with uncertain ethical decisions, and they believe that they can speak freely; □ A policy of zero-tolerance for fraud has been communicated to employees through words and actions.

Appendix C: Sample Departmental Report (cont'd)

	Question	Mitigating Factors
6	Are fraud, waste, and abuse risk assessments performed to proactively identify and mitigate your department's vulnerabilities to internal and external fraud?	□ Department performs periodic fraud risk assessments; □ Department fraud risk assessment includes inherent fraud risk; □ Department fraud risk assessment includes likelihood and impact of fraud ar risk response; □ Proactive steps are taken on a periodic basis to assess department risks an improve internal controls related to potential fraud.
7	Are strong anti-fraud, waste, and abuse controls in place and operating effectively?	Strong anti-fraud controls that should be implemented and tested to ensure that they are operating effectively, include the following: Proper separation of duties; Use of authorizations; Physical safeguards; Job/Assignment rotations; Mandatory vacations; Granting and periodic review of employees' access rights to each application system is based on their roles and job functions; Departments should require individual user ids and passwords for all system applications and prohibit employees from using generic user ids and/or sharing passwords.
8	Is there a review of internal controls established to prevent the fraud?	□ Processes have been established to record, and analyze all fraud incident: □ Internal controls related to the fraud incident are reviewed for potential improvement; □ Effective monitoring and review procedures that will promptly detect acts owrongdoing should prevention efforts fail.
9	Is an effective fraud, waste, and abuse reporting mechanism in place?	□ Employees have been informed on how to communicate concerns about known or potential wrongdoing; □ One or more reporting channels (e.g., City's third-party Employee Hotline, dedicated email inbox, or web-based form) are available to employees; □ Employees trust that they can report concerns regarding ethics, fraud or questionable business activities anonymously and/or confidentially (where legally permissible) and without fear of reprisal through the City's Employee Hotline in accordance with Administrative Policy Manual 4-33: Policy Prohibiting Retaliation; □ It has been made clear to employees that reports of suspicious activity will be promptly and thoroughly evaluated; □ Reporting policies and mechanisms extend to vendors, customers, and other outside parties.
10	Has your department taken aggressive steps to protect the City's data, employee information, and banking transactions from cyber fraud?	□ Video conferencing is initiated by the City through ISD authorized tools, such as WebEx or Microsoft Teams; □ Staff are directed to only download items from verified sources and never click unusual URLs or attachments; □ Staff are requested to utilize a strong password for home Wi-Fi; □ Staff are requested to avoid public and unprotected networks; □ Staff are limited to accessing the City's network via a virtual private network (VPN).

Appendix D: Survey Questionnaire

Below is a copy of the risk survey questions.

2/25/2021

Glendale, CA: Express Risk Survey - Fraud Risk Checkup

Express Risk Survey - Fraud Risk Checkup

Express Risk Survey - Fraud Risk Checkup

The City is committed to protecting its revenue, property and assets from occurrences of fraud, waste and abuse. COVID-19 has caused unprecedented change to many aspects of each organization, including the control environment. Business processes are more exposed and people are more vulnerable. Internal Audit has developed a survey in order to determine the level of fraud risk facing each City department.

Per the City's policy titled Fraud, Waste and Abuse (APM 4-35), management is responsible for designing and implementing systems and procedures for the prevention and detection of fraud, waste and abuse, and for ensuring a culture and environment that promotes honesty and ethical behavior. Members of the City's executive and management team are responsible for initiating preventive measures and for being familiar with and alert to the types of improprieties or irregularities that might occur within their area of responsibility. All City employees are required to immediately report suspected fraud, waste or abuse.

Survey Completion Timeline:

We ask that you complete this survey by February 15, 2021.

Upon completion, you will receive your risk score and a risks and mitigation measures checklist for your review and reference.

Please contact Internal Audit at Internal AuditSurvey@glendaleca.gov with any questions.

We appreciate your participation in this important survey.

https://home/departments/innovation-performance-and-audit/express-risk-survey-fraud-risk-checkup

Department: *
(Select an Answer)
 1. Is management climate/tone at the top one of honesty and integrity? * Yes No Not Sure
1a. Please select all of the controls that apply to your department.
 Employees are periodically surveyed to determine the extent to which they believe management acts with honesty and integrity; Performance goals are realistic and clearly communicated; Fraud, waste, and abuse prevention goals have been incorporated into the performance measures that are used to evaluate managers; The organization established, implemented, and tested a process for oversight of fraud risks by the board of directors or others charged with governance (e.g., the audit committee).

1/5

2/25/2021	Glendale, CA : Express Risk Survey - Fraud Risk Checkup	
2. Does the City and its management demoto-day activities?	onstrate a commitment to integrity and ethical behavior by their day-	-
○ Yes		
○ No		
O Not Sure		
2a. Please select all of the controls that ap	ply to your department.	
☐ Departmental employees are familiar v	with the City's Employee Code of Ethics;	
	ted in a common area within your department and is available on the	
•	with the City's Administration Policy Manual 4-35: Policy on Fraud,	
☐ Ethics Trainings are conducted on a pe	eriodic basis;	
☐ Department management employees	are required to complete an annual conflict of interest statement; o sign an acknowledgment that they have received the City's Code of	F
 3. Does the City and its management demo Yes No Not Sure 	onstrate a commitment to employee health, wellness, and morale? *	
3a. Please select all of the controls that ap	ply to your department.	
☐ Employee support programs are in pla health, family, or financial problems;	ace to assist employees struggling with addiction, mental/emotional	
•	lows employees to speak freely about pressures, providing	
	such pressures before they become acute;	
Regular, anonymous surveys are cond	ducted to assess employee morale.	
4. Does the City take and publicize proacti abuse detection?	ive measures to increase employees' perception of fraud, waste, and	
○ Yes		
○ No		
O Not Sure		
4a. Please select all of the controls that app	ply to your department.	
☐ Possible fraudulent, wasteful, or abusi passively;	ive conduct is aggressively sought out, rather than dealt with	
•	its are performed in addition to regularly scheduled audits;	
	its are performed in addition to regularly seriedated addits,	
The state of the s	proactively search for fraud, waste, and abuse and the use of such	

/25/2021	Glendale, CA: Express Risk Survey - Fraud Risk Checkup		
techniques have b	een made known throughout the organization;		
☐ Managers actively review the controls, processes, accounts, or transactions under their purview for adherence to company policies and expectations.			
5. Is ongoing anti-f	raud, waste, and abuse training provided to all City employees? *		
○ Yes			
○ No			
○ Not Sure			
5a. Please select all	of the controls that apply to your department.		
	re been trained on the Fraud Triangle Model - Fraud is likely to result from a combination o unity, and rationalization;	f	
	lerstand what constitutes fraud, waste, and abuse;		
publicity, potential	aud, waste, and abuse to the City and everyone in it—including lost revenues, adverse job loss, and decreased morale and productivity—have been made clear to all employees; departments have a protocol for handling confidential complaints;		
•	w where to seek advice when faced with uncertain ethical decisions, and they believe that		
they can speak fre			
	tolerance for fraud has been communicated to employees through words and actions.		
department's vulnerabilities to ii *	nternal and external fraud?		
○ Yes			
○ No			
○ Not Sure			
6a. Please select al	of the controls that apply to your department.		
	rforms periodic fraud risk assessments;		
•	ud risk assessment includes inherent fraud risk;		
	ud risk assessment includes likelihood and impact of fraud and risk response;		
 Proactive steps related to potential 	are taken on a periodic basis to assess department risks and improve internal controls fraud.		
	raud, waste, and abuse controls in place and operating effectively? *		
○ Yes			
O No			
○ Not Sure			
7a. Please select all	of the controls that apply to your department.		
	nnovation-performance-and-audit/express-risk-survey-fraud-risk-checkup		

	Glendale, CA: Express Risk Survey - Fraud Risk Checkup
Proper separation Use of authorizatio Physical safeguard Job/Assignment ro	ns; ds; tations;
	dic review of employees' access rights to each applications system is based on their
	cs; Id require individual user ids and passwords for all system applications and prohibit generic user ids and/or sharing passwords.
8. Is there a review of	internal controls established to prevent the fraud? *
○ Yes	
○ No ○ Not Sure	
8a. Please select all of	the controls that apply to your department.
☐ Processes have be	een established to record, and analyze all fraud incidents;
	lated to the fraud incident are reviewed for potential improvement;
 Effective monitorin efforts fail. 	g and review procedures that will promptly detect acts of wrongdoing should prevention
chorto faii.	
	, waste, and abuse reporting mechanism in *
place?	, waste, and abuse reporting mechanism in *
place?	, waste, and abuse reporting mechanism in *
place? Yes No	, waste, and abuse reporting mechanism in *
place? Yes No Not Sure	, waste, and abuse reporting mechanism in * the controls that apply to your department.
place? Yes No Not Sure 9a. Please select all of Employees have b One or more repor	the controls that apply to your department. een informed on how to communicate concerns about known or potential wrongdoing; ting channels (e.g., City's third-party Employee Hotline, dedicated email inbox, or web-
place? Yes No Not Sure 9a. Please select all of Employees have b One or more repor based form) are availaded in the semployees trust the anonymously and/or comployee Hotline in a	the controls that apply to your department. een informed on how to communicate concerns about known or potential wrongdoing; ting channels (e.g., City's third-party Employee Hotline, dedicated email inbox, or web-

10. Has your departmen transactions from cyber	
	at taken aggressive steps to protect the City's data, employee information, and banking fraud?
○ Yes	
○ No	
O Not Sure	
10a. Please select all of t	the controls that apply to your department.
	is initiated by the City through ISD authorized tools, such as WebEx or Microsoft Teams; only download items from verified sources and never click unusual URLs or
☐ Staff are requested t	to utilize a strong password for home Wi-Fi;
 Staff are requested t 	to avoid public and unprotected networks;
☐ Staff are limited to address.	ccessing the City's network via a virtual private network (VPN).
Email Address SUBMIT	