Travel & PCard Examples of Fraud, Waste, and Abuse

**Fraud** is the act of deliberately deceiving someone to secure an unfair or unlawful gain. Examples include: theft, bribery, and kickbacks/embezzlement.

**Waste**

An example of waste:

An employee travels internationally to a conference. They are traveling first class, staying in an expensive hotel, and driving a high-end rental car. This could be considered inappropriate.

Waste includes spending money or using resources in excess of actual need and doesn’t necessarily produce a benefit for the individual, but is an act of poor management of public funds. (This example is for training purposes only and is not intended to be representative of any department, supervisor or employee.)

**Abuse**

An example of abuse:

A manager uses the department purchasing card or travel card to buy lunch for their “one-on-one” meetings. She has three direct reports, and they meet once a week.

Abuse is the improper use or intentional misuse of resources and can also be considered wasteful. However, unlike waste, abuse usually occurs because there is some personal advantage (financial or otherwise) to the individual.

If you witness acts of fraud, waste, and abuse it’s your duty to report it.