



Team Activity: Corruption series

Corruption consequences

20-25 mins



Internal fraud and corruption: case study

Activity overview

ATO staff can be targeted for corruption for a number of reasons, ranging from access to sensitive taxpayer and business information to decision making responsibility about procurement, debts and more. This activity includes a video of a former Mayor talking about the devastating impact his corruption conviction has had on multiple domains of his life.

The aim of this activity is to understand the broad and devastating consequences corrupted public officials experience.

Learning outcomes

After completing this activity, your staff should:

- understand what corruption is
- understand personal, professional and criminal consequences of corruption
- recognise and understand how to report suspected and witnessed corruption through preferred channels.

Instructions

Share the [Carl Wulff – The Inside Story video](#) (7.45 minutes) with your team. Have a discussion with your team about the video.

Discuss

What is corruption?

What are some of the consequences you could face if caught and/or convicted of corruption?

Key talking points

Personal consequences

- Impact on your personal reputation
- Loss of trust from family and friends
- Financial impacts such as not being able to afford rent and food.

Professional consequences

- Loss of employment
- Salary reduction
- Diminished future employment prospects.

Criminal consequences

- Investigation by the ATO and/or NACC
- Criminal investigation
- Prosecution
- Fines and jail time.

Key terms

Corruption is the 'dishonest or biased exercise of Commonwealth public official functions'. Examples of corruption include biased or dishonest decision making, accepting bribes to influence a process, collusion for personal gain, nepotism and cronyism.

The National Anti-Corruption Commission (NACC) is an independent agency that prevents, detects, investigates and reports on serious or systemic corruption in the Commonwealth public sector. It also educates the public service, and the public, about corruption risks and prevention.

The NACC is independent from government and be able to investigate and report on alleged corruption.

Next steps for you and your team to take

- You can find more information about your responsibilities in the [Internal Fraud and Corruption CEI](#).
- Contribute to a positive workplace integrity culture which can include openly discussing corruption prevention concepts and their application in your team and supporting reporting behaviours.
- Report any suspected or witnessed fraud and corruption to Speak up or by using the Anonymous Fraud Alert Form.
- Alternatively, any suspected or witnessed corruption that is serious or systemic can be referred directly to the National Anti-Corruption Commission (NACC). This is called a voluntary referral.

For more information and resources

- You can head to our [SharePoint](#) site
- You can read our [facilitator guide](#)
- Call the [Speak Up hotline](#) on **1800 061 187** to speak to FPII
- Search [Anonymous Fraud Alert Form](#) on myATO to report anonymously
- Find out more about the [National Anti-Corruption Commission](#)
- Email SpeakUp@ato.gov.au for advice or to lodge an allegation
- Email PublicInterestDisclosure@ato.gov.au to lodge a disclosure.