

Forensic Accounting Panel: Cases

Albrecht and Sack (2000)

- 917 practitioners and educators ranked skills and abilities needed by entry level accountants.
- Practitioners top 3:
 - 1) written communication,
 - 2) Analytical/critical thinking, and
 - 3) oral communications.

Went on to criticize accounting education

- Focus on content rather than helping students develop critical skills:
 - assignments with real companies,
 - team work
 - case analysis,
 - Written/oral presentations,
 - role playing

Forensic accounting cases help fill that deficit

- Famous/not famous Fraud Cases
- Cases that develop skills:
 - Critical thinking
 - Analysis of financial statements
 - Team work
 - Written and oral presentations with accounting substance

Specific Companies

- HealthSouth, Inc.: An Instructional Case Examining Auditors' Legal Liability (Daigle, Louwers, and Morris. 2013).
- Koss Corporation Case: Trouble in Brew City (Daugherty and Neely, 2011)
- Interstate Business College: A Case Study in Fraud Examination (Peterson and Buckhoff, 2004)

Specific Companies

- Accounting Fraud at CIT Computer Leasing Group, Inc. (Michelman, Gorman, Trompeter, IAE, Vol 26, No 3, 2011)
- Satyam Fraud: A Case Study of India's Entron (Brown, Daugherty Persellin, IAE, Vol 26. No 1, Aug. 2014)
- The SEC's Case against California Micro Devices: (D'Aquila and Capriotti, 2011)

Skill Development

- **Use of Public Records to Locate Assets:**
 - The Mobile Home Monster: A Forensic Case in the (Quirin, O’Bryan, IAE, Vol 27 No 2, May 2014)
- **Use of tax returns to reconstruct an asset and income profile.**
 - The Marriage of Sharon and Henry Sawbones: A forensic Case Illustrating the Use of a Tax return in a litigation advisory Services Context (Quirin, O’Bryan, IAE Vol. 31 No. 3, August 2016).



Skills

- **Value lost profits from a business interruption.**
 - A Case Study on the Determination of Lost Profits for the Forensic Accountant (DiGabriele, IAE, Vol 27 No. 3 August 2012)
- **Computer assisted Fraud Examination:**
 - Tampa Electronics: An Instructional Case in Computer Assisted Fraud Examination (Murthy, IAE, Vol 25, No 3, August 2010)

- **Study of Revenue cycle**
 - Tasteless Tea Company: A Comprehensive Revenue Transaction Cycle Case Study (Premuroso, Hopwood and Bhattacharya, IAE Vol 26. No. 1, 2011)
- **Preparing an Expert Witness report and testimony**
 - Arson or Accident: A forensic Accounting case requiring Critical Thinking and Expert Communication (Durtschi, Rufus, IAE forthcoming)

- Fraud Investigation (identifying fraud, collecting documentary evidence)
 - Grand Teton Candy Company (Dee, Durtschi, Mindak, IAE, 2014)
 - Mountain State Sporting Goods: A Case of Fraud? A Case Study in Fraud Examination (Rufus, Hahn, IAE, 2011)
 - Return of the Tallahassee BeanCounters (Dee and Durtschi, IAE, 2010)
 - Tallahassee BeanCounters (Durtschi, IAE, 2003)

There is a huge appetite for more cases

- Forensic accounting cases often used in auditing classes
- No reason they shouldn't be used in other classes.
 - Tax fraud?
 - International Fraud?
- Write cases that do double duty

What makes a good case?

- **Compelling tasks**
 - Needs to be more than GMAT reading comprehension questions.
- **Realistic setting.** Real company or realistic.
- **Learning Objectives:** How does it help students gain the knowledge or skills needed by accountants?

Required in a published case?

- **Written case for students**
 - Step-by-step task to be completed
 - Information students need (or how to find information) to complete task.
- **Learning Objectives & Implementation Guidance for Instructors**
 - Evidence of effectiveness
- **Solutions**

Also required

- Have someone (not authors) use the case
 - Why? Is your implementation guidance good enough?
 - Are student instructions good enough?
 - Have you included all relevant information?
 - Incorporate suggestions for improvement
- Assessment must go beyond “did you have fun doing this case”

Hints

- Interesting teaching methods/tasks
- Keep it simple. Let instructors be creative.
- Don't think it is easy.
- Tenure. Keep records of use.

Where to publish cases

- Journal of Forensic Accounting Research
- Issues in Accounting Education