

# YOUR ROLE IN IMPROVING ORGANIZATIONAL CULTURE

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# TxDOT Audit and Compliance - Introductions



Kristin Alexander, CIA, CFE, CCEP  
Director, Compliance Division  
29 Full-Time Employees

**Division Mission:**

To foster stewardship by preventing and detecting fraud, waste, and abuse and by providing assurance regarding the integrity and performance of programs managed by the Department and TxDOT business partners.



Benito Ybarra, CIA, CISA, CFE, CCEP  
Chief Audit and Compliance Officer

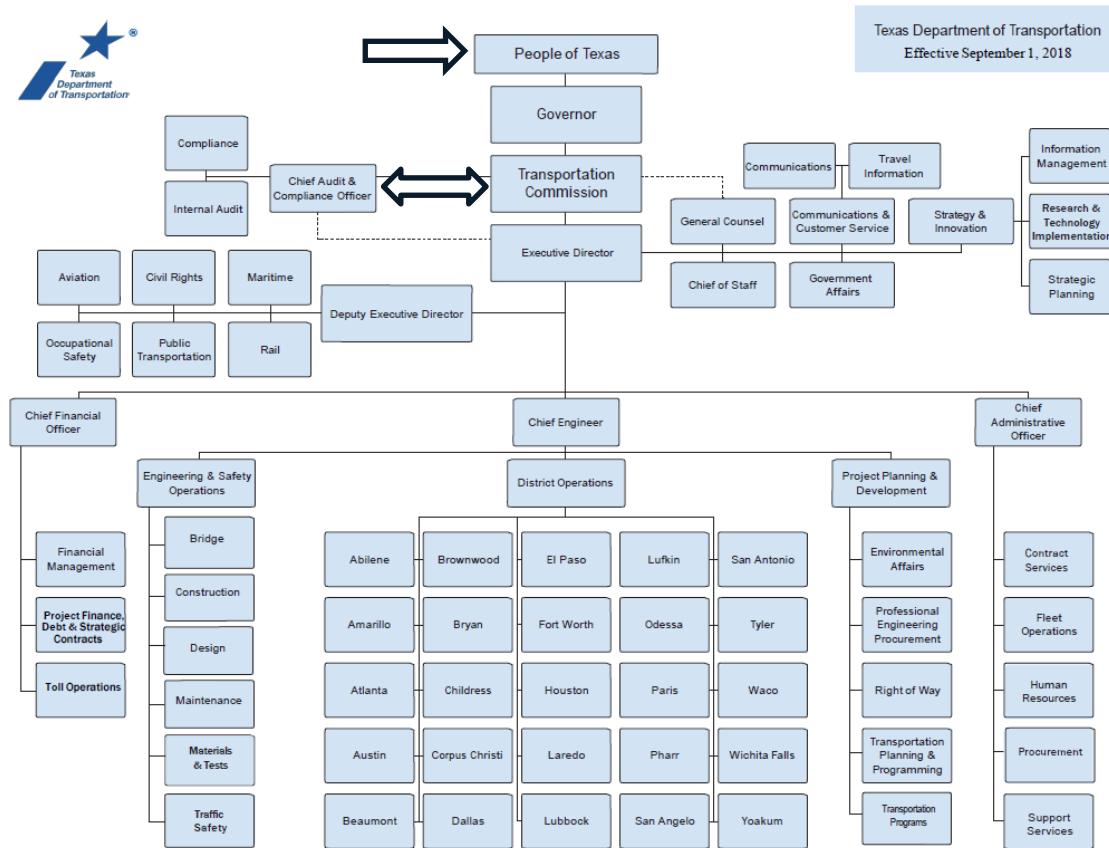


Craig Otto, CIA, CGAP, CRMA  
Director, Internal Audit Division  
39 Full-Time Employees

**Division Mission:**

To be leaders in providing assurance and problem-solving capability with professionalism, objectivity and integrity.

# TxDOT Audit and Compliance - Introductions



## Notable Takeaways

- Ultimate accountability to the People of Texas
- Chief Audit and Compliance Officer reports to full commission
- Organizational focus on service delivery, transparency and accountability

# Ground Rules



Panelist Questions  
Throughout



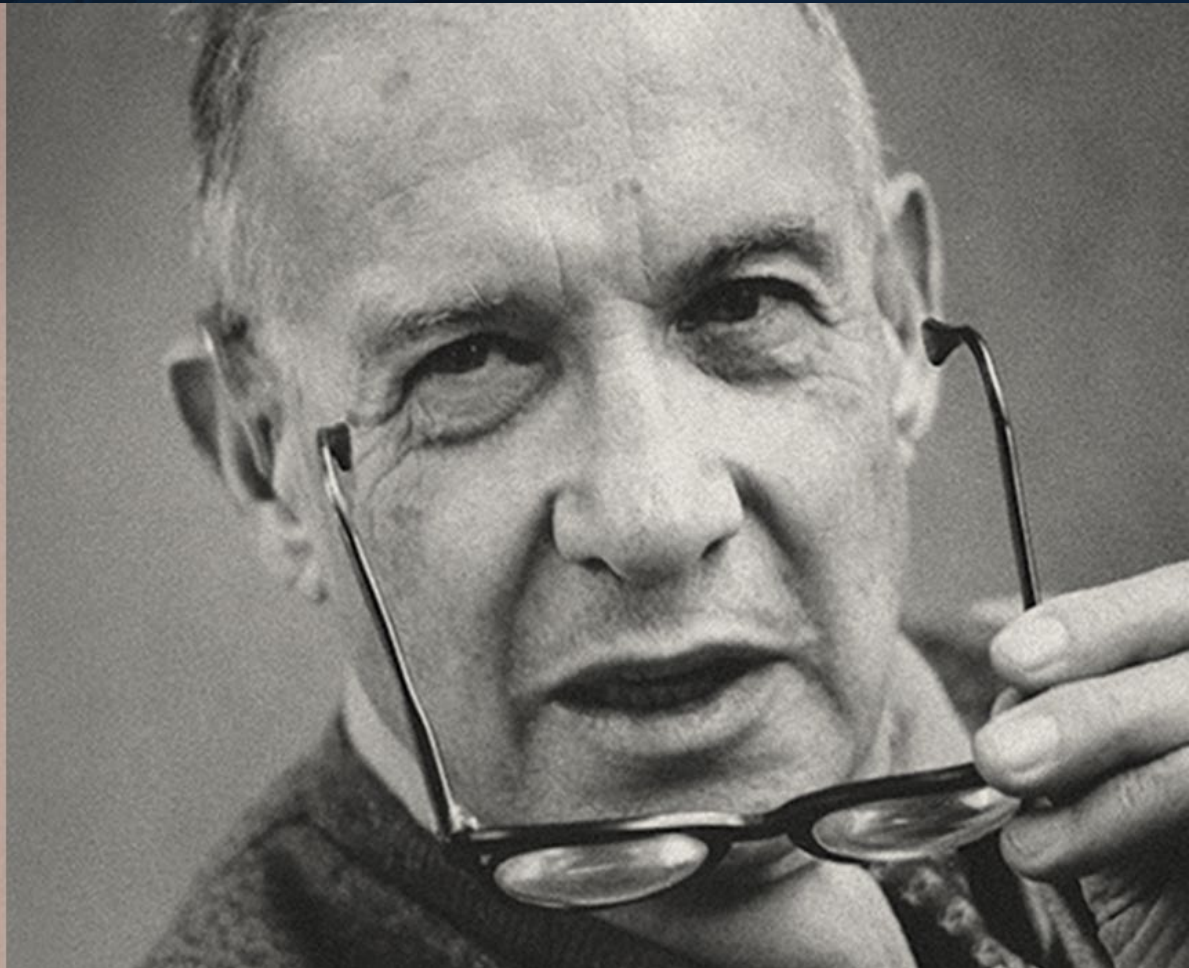
Participation is  
Welcome



We are always  
right!

# CULTURE EATS STRATEGY FOR BREAKFAST.

*- Peter Drucker*





How do you define organizational culture?



What are examples of organizational culture that impact employee actions?

# What is Organizational Culture?

*The ethical atmosphere created by the organization's leadership – ACFE*

*The level of commitment toward openness, honesty, integrity, and ethical behavior as embodied by the actions, directives, and behaviors of an organization's leaders – AICPA*

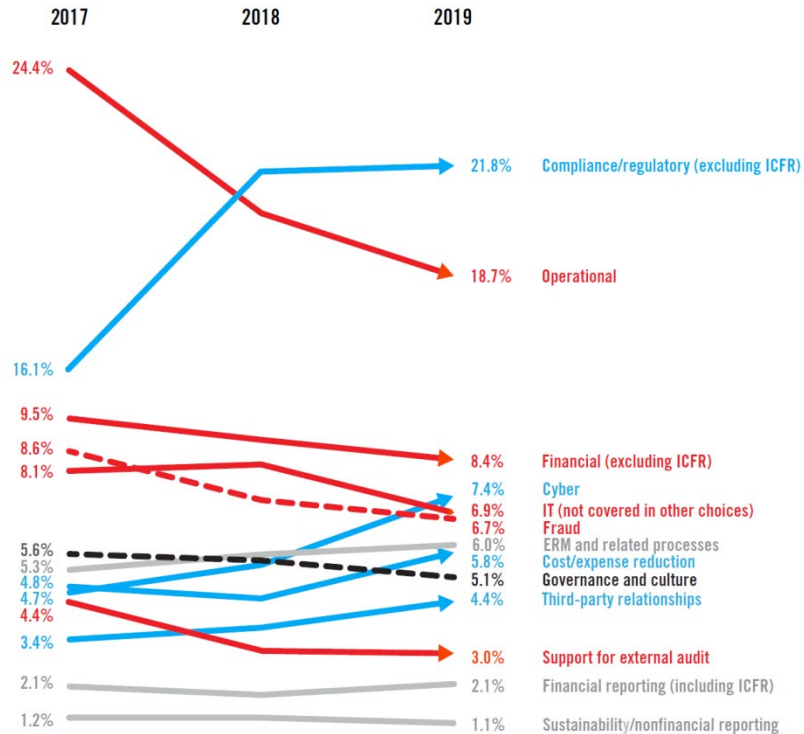
*The company's commitment to integrity and ethical values, the importance of maintaining effective internal control, and the expectation that all employees will fulfill their internal control obligations – COSO*

*Culture encompasses the organization's values and how employees act out those values – IIA Tone at the Top*

*The way we do things around here*

# IIA Pulse of the Profession – Audit Plan Allocation (Public Sector)

Exhibit E: Audit Plan Allocation — Public Sector (2017 to 2019)



## Observations

- Compliance/Regulatory and Operational comprise 41% of allocated time
- Largest coverage changes in Operational (downward) and Compliance/Regulatory (upward)
- Governance and Culture coverage steady at ~5%



Is 5% coverage  
sufficient?



Why is it important to  
understand and assess  
an organization's  
culture?

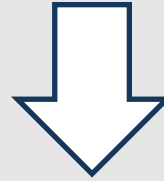
# Common Methods to Assess Organizational Culture

Climate  
Surveys

Attrition  
Rates

Employee  
Complaints

Employment  
Lawsuits



Human Resources

Legal

**What about audit and compliance?**

# IIA Tone at the Top – Why Audit/Compliance Are Suited to Assess Culture

Interactions and candid  
conversations with  
employees at all levels

Internal controls  
experts

Understand and  
oversee compliance  
programs

Perspectives on which  
departments are  
difficult to work with

Perspectives on which  
departments  
experience recurring  
issues

Independence and  
objectivity



What do you see as challenges associated with auditing organizational culture?

# Elements of Strong Ethics and Compliance Programs

## 2019 Definitive Corporate Compliance Benchmark Report Navex Global

		MATURITY LEVEL				NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES		
		Reactive	Basic	Maturing	Advanced	Less than 1,000	1,000 – 6,000	6,001 or More
Code of Conduct	91%	83%	83%	97%	100%	90%	90%	96%
Policies and Procedures to Prohibit and Reduce Misconduct	87%	71%	78%	92%	97%	84%	83%	93%
Training Based on the Organization's Risks and Individual Roles	77%	40%	67%	87%	97%	72%	76%	85%
Non-Retaliation Policy	72%	56%	58%	78%	91%	66%	70%	82%
Case Management and Investigation Processes / Protocols	72%	46%	59%	82%	99%	63%	74%	85%
An Anonymous Internal Reporting Channel (e.g., Hotline)	71%	48%	59%	79%	91%	54%	80%	89%

**Code of Conduct is number 1 – demonstrates strong tone at the top**

# Auditing a Code of Ethics (Case Study)

**"Respect:** We treat others as we would like to be treated ourselves. Ruthlessness, callousness and arrogance don't belong here." ✓

**"Integrity:** We work with customers and prospects openly, honestly and sincerely. ✓  
When we say we will do something, we will do it."

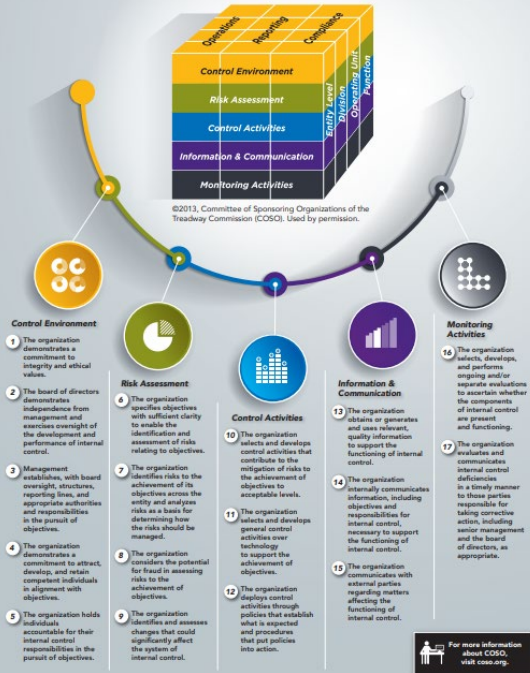
**"Excellence:** We are satisfied with nothing ✓  
less than the very best. We will continue to raise the bar for everyone."



# **TxDOT Internal Audit Considerations**

# Committee of Sponsoring Organizations

## COSO Internal Control — Integrated Framework Principles



Provides a framework that includes components of all organizations' internal controls principles

## 5 Primary Components

- Control Environment
- Risk Assessment
- Control Activities
- Information & Communication
- Monitoring Activities

## 17 Principles

# TxDOT's Use of COSO Internal Control Integrated Framework (Internal Audit)

Audit Results Dashboard		
Name of Audit		
Business Objectives (Reporting, Operational, Compliance)		Scope Areas Evaluated
ERM Component		R, O, C
Control Activities		Scope Area 1
Control Environment	Organizational Tone	
	Business Objective/Goal-Setting	
	Resource Capacity	
	Forecasting/Budget	
	Training and Development	
Risk Assessment	Risk Identification/Planning	
	Risk Assessment/Impact Analysis	
	Risk Response/Cost-Benefit Analysis	
	Business Continuity	
Control Activities	Policies/Procedure Development & Maintenance	
	Approvals/Authorizations	
	Supporting Evidence/Records Retention	
	Segregation of Duties/System Access	
	Safeguarding Assets/Security	
Information & Communication	Information Classification	
	Information Input	
	Information Processing	
	Information Output	
	Internal and External Reporting	
Monitoring	Exception Reporting Review	
	Reconciliations	
	Root-Cause Analysis	
	Evaluations/Inspections	
	Management Action Plans	
Scope Area Assessment		
Percentage of Completion		0%
Rating Assessment Grid		
		Exemplary Satisfactory Needs Improvement Unsatisfactory

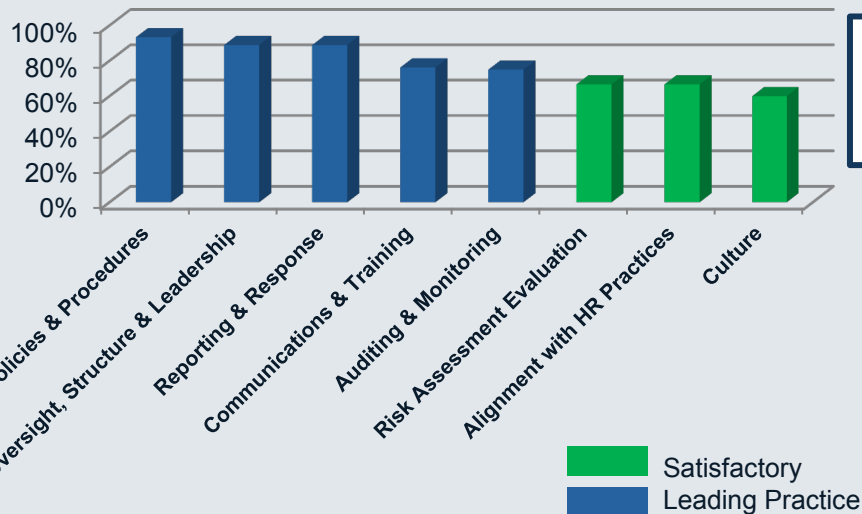
## Highlights

- Rate audits and test areas according to ERM components
- Ratings range from Exemplary to Unsatisfactory
- Includes rating of *Organizational Tone*

# **TxDOT Compliance Considerations**

# Self Assessment of Compliance Program Effectiveness (Compliance)

Elements of an Effective Compliance Program



Based on US Sentencing Commission Guidelines

## Culture

- Do employees believe that it is possible to behave ethically and achieve business objectives at the company? Is unethical behavior clearly seen as out of bounds?
- Do employees believe they can raise issues to management or the hotline number without fear of retaliation?
- Do employees believe that management will take appropriate action if misconduct is communicated to them?
- Do employees believe that others who violate company standards get promoted to positions of increased authority?
- Is the program viewed as a paper program or as a genuine commitment?

# Analysis of Hotline Allegations and Investigation Results (Compliance)

## Allegations:

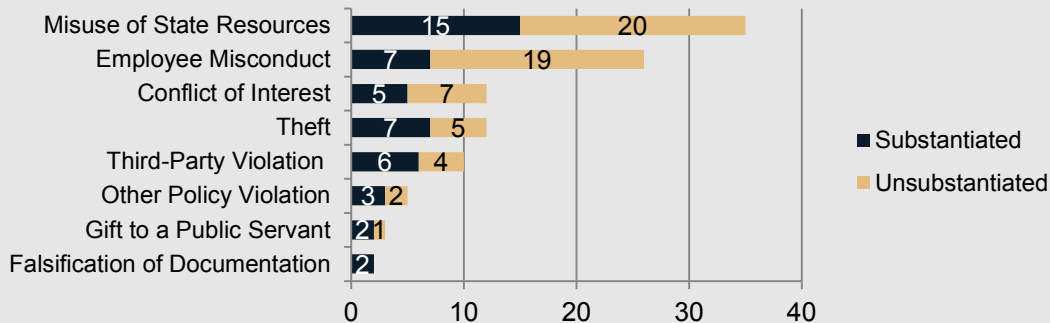
• Received	301	283	4%
• Investigations initiated	117	98	18%

## Closed Investigation Dispositions:

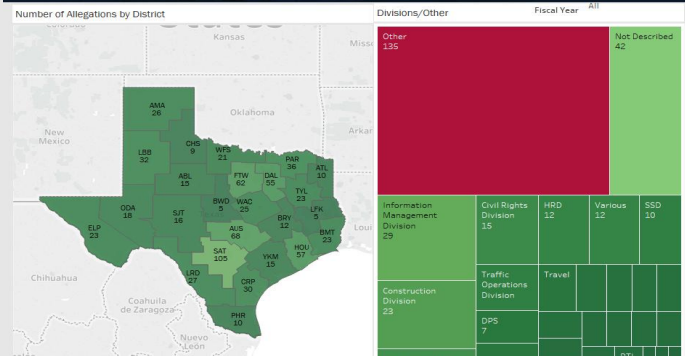
• Substantiated	47 (45%)	47 (45%)
• Unsubstantiated	58	57

## Closed Investigation Locations:

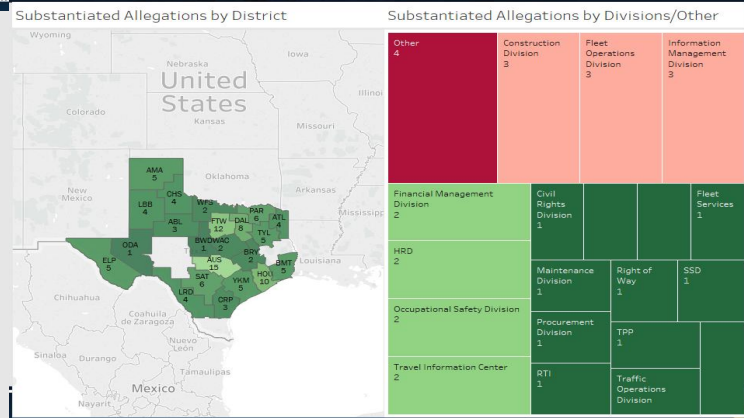
• Districts	70	72
• Divisions	25	16
• Third-Party	10	16



## Allegations by District and Division



## Investigations by District and Division



# Control Self-Assessments and Reviews (Compliance)



# Quick Self-Assessment

Criteria	YES	NO
1. My organization has a way to report complaints outside of my management line (e.g. human resources, hotline, etc.).		
2. My executive team makes it clear that they want feedback from employees, customers and business partners.		
3. My management team welcomes feedback and uses it to make things better.		
4. Employees do not have to fear retaliation for reporting a complaint or issue.		
5. Employee culture/work life metrics are shared with executives and are used to address employee concerns.		



**How can audit and compliance impact “NO” answers?**

**Thank you.**

**Now go impact your organization's culture!**