



Employee Fraud £400K

CSA were commissioned to investigate alleged malpractice involving a senior Sales Manager.

The sales manager had set up a fictitious Credit Account in the name of a relative confirming he was a fully accredited haulier and owned and operated one 8 wheeled tipper, working from their Kent depot.

Suspicious were aroused as the address on the account was similar to that of the Sales Manager, who had a residential address in a different County. The Sales Manager also had the authority and ability to raise and cancel conveyance tickets as appropriate.

During our internal investigation we examined the details within the Credit Account application and established that the haulier's 8 wheeled tipper was in fact registered as a Ford Mondeo, so was incapable of hauling material throughout the South East of England.

A number of other discrepancies were also highlighted during our investigation which provided enough circumstantial evidence for us to carry out a 'Fact Finding' interview with the Sales Manager.

After the usual introductions, we explained the procedure with regard to recording the interview for evidential reasons and to provide the Sales Manager with an exact record of the interview, we discussed the allegations in detail and also provided documentation in support.

After being presented with the evidence a full and frank admission was made. During the interview we were able to establish how, when and why the Fraud started and that there was a private bank account in the Sales Manager's name with potentially £100,000.

Normally we would conclude the interview with a 7 day suspension pending further enquiries and then pass a complete file with Section 9 Witness Statements and exhibits etc to the Police.

However, on this occasion we had reasonable grounds to suspect that there was a bank account with a large sum of money which the Sales Manager had direct access to – so the Police were summoned and after a brief discussion with them she was arrested.

The Sales Manager was found guilty at Crown Court and sentenced to 3.5 years in Prison. The police investigation also confirmed an additional £300,000 defrauded from the company over a five-year period.