

# LOWERS & ASSOCIATES

INTERNATIONAL RISK MITIGATION PARTNERS



## BANKING

ENTERPRISE RISK ASSESSMENT



CONSULTING  
SERVICES THAT  
REDUCE RISK

## BANKING RISK MANAGEMENT

Lowers & Associates (L&A) is an expert in the field of Banking Enterprise Risk Assessment and Management. Our job is to assess security and compliance, identify vulnerabilities, and make recommendations to minimize risk and strengthen your security posture across your entire organization. We provide a strategic range of assessment services, compliance, and best practice recommendations, and investigative methods to minimize enterprise-wide risk. Our consultative services cover four main areas to assist in the management of Banking Risk:

Risk Assessment • Audit • Investigation • Compliance

## PROVEN SOLUTIONS THAT REDUCE INTERNAL AND EXTERNAL RISK

### RISK ASSESSMENT

Lowers & Associates (L&A) employs a strategic Enterprise Risk Assessment (ERA) process that identifies a bank's current strengths and weaknesses related to its management of risk. Key areas of assessment include:

- Information Security Work Program
  - Security Policy
  - Organizational Security
  - Asset Classification and Control
  - Personnel Security
  - Physical and Environmental Security
  - Communications and Operations Management
  - System Development & Maintenance
  - Business Continuity Management
- Information Technology Risk
  - Business Impact Analysis
  - External/Internal Vulnerability Assessment
  - Application Security Review
  - System Controls Review
- Facilities (Branch/Office) Risk
  - Access Control (Physical/Logical)
  - Facilities Administration
  - Safety and Security
  - Incident Response
  - Site Management
- Risk Prioritization and Mitigation Planning

Our ERA findings are assembled into a framework that thoroughly records the results of the review and provides documentation and presentation materials that include:

- Work Performed
- Targets/Knowledge Gained
- Exposures Determined
- Risk Prioritization
- Mitigation Strategies

### AUDIT

L&A can help you prepare for and respond to audits performed either by internal or external auditors and bank examiners. We are able to perform our reviews independently (or work in partnership with auditors) based upon the following frameworks and processes:

- Control Objectives for Information and Related Technology (COBIT)
- Committee on Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission (COSO)
- IIA Guide to the Assessment of IT (GAIT)
- AICPA Statement of Auditing Standards (SAS) No. 70
- International Financial Institution Standards and Regulatory Guidance and Best Practices

### COMPLIANCE

L&A is dedicated to assisting our bank clients in understanding and meeting their obligations in the dynamic financial institutions compliance landscape. We will help you to either build your Compliance Program or respond to the demands of bank regulatory bodies. L&A's compliance services are designed to provide guidance and ensure current and ongoing compliance with such regulations as:

- Bank Secrecy Act (BSA)
- Gramm-Leach-Bliley Act (GLBA)
- The Sarbanes-Oxley Act (SOX)
- Basel II
- USA PATRIOT Act
- Federal Financial Institution Examination Council (FFIEC)
- Central Bank Regulations and Policies

When needed, L&A's highly skilled and multidisciplinary Investigations team can effectively review and understand the elements of bank records, internal financial controls, computer systems and records, and other documentation related to the processing of financial transactions.



### PROVEN SOLUTIONS

Starting with an Enterprise Risk Assessment, a growing community bank's relationship with L&A now includes investigations, IT security and governance, anti-robbery training, branch operations, and employee background screening. L&A works closely with all layers of the bank's management, including the CFO, VP of IT, Chief Compliance Officer, HR Director, and Bank Security Officer. Due largely to L&A's efforts, the bank has improved its CAMEL rating, and has greatly increased the simplicity by which bank examinations are prepared for and performed.

Visit us on-line or give us a call today!