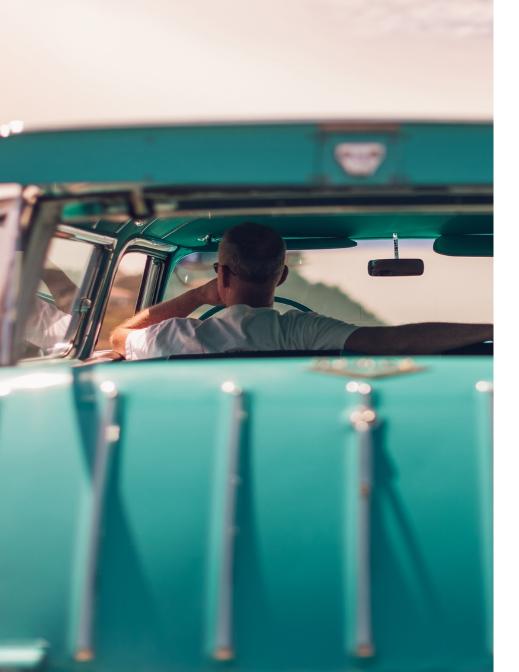


#### Ethics Overview for Internal Auditors

Aran Loftus, Senior Manager, Moss Adams



Roadmap:

Definitions

Code of Ethics

Dilemmas

Ethical Leadership

Safeguards



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# Definitions



## Business Ethics



- Morals
- Ethics
- Guidance for corporate culture and identify



## **Evolution of Ethics**

- Classical theories of a business acting as a business; self serving
- Evolution to more socially responsible approaches
- Profits vs. the "right decision"
- Focus on preventing conflicts through education

Elements of a Code of Ethics

- Promotes policies to guide behavior
- Communicates organizational beliefs
- Framework for decision making and reporting
- Defines oversight roles
- May outline disciplinary actions
- Establishes trust in the organization

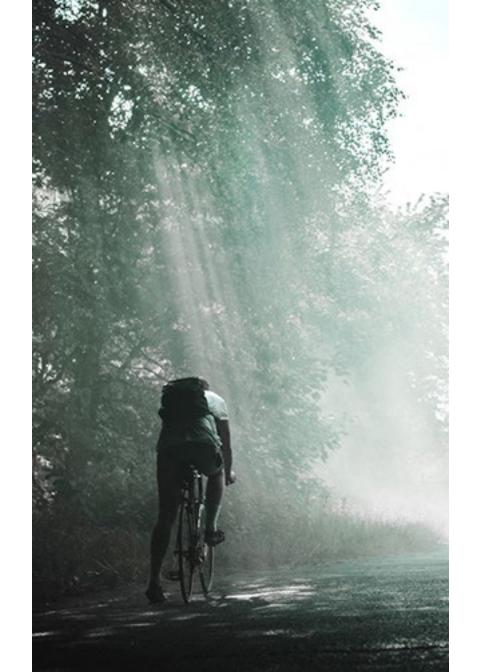
## IIA Code of Ethics

 $\bigwedge$ 



- Four main sections
- Integrity
- Objectivity
- Confidentiality
- Competency

# Dilemmas



#### **Profits over doing the right thing**

- Passive corrections of errors
- Unsuitable products pressure on members
- Timing of gains and losses



#### **Management Pressure**

- Pressure to change findings
- Lack of funding
- Non-inclusionary culture
- Scope restrictions



#### **Personnel – internal and outsourced**

- Requirement to adhere to a code of ethics (CIA, CPA)
- Outsourced firms do not have codes of ethics
- Lack of training
- Conflicts of interest

#### Role of the internal auditor in the organization

- Adequate oversight
- Internal auditor as a management control
- Internal audit and Supervisory Committee charters

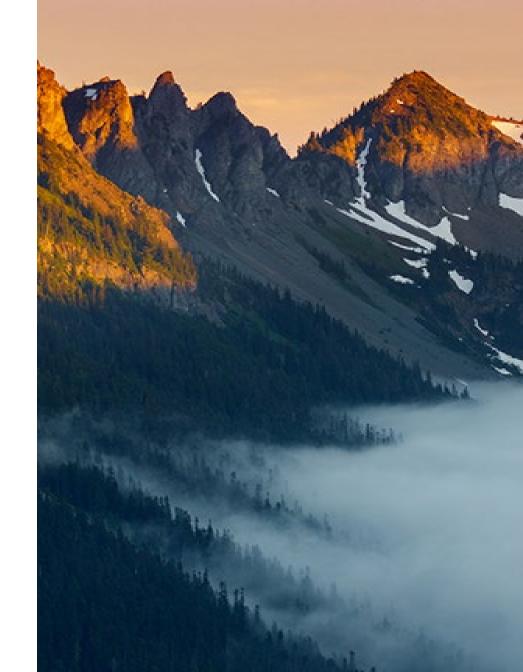


#### Technology

- Monitoring email and internet use
- Social media
- Employee account reviews



# Ethical Leadership and Safeguards





- Retrieved from content.time.com



- Retrieved from CNBC.com





- Retrieved from CNBC.com

## Ethical Leadership

#### Traits of an ethical leader

- Trust in employees
- Honesty in communications
- Empathy and openness to listen
- Leads by example consistency
- Stakeholders over profits

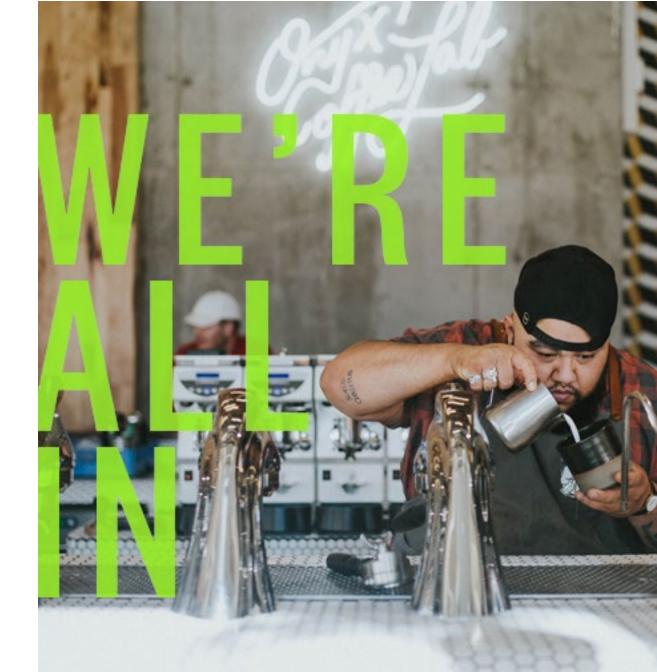
## Safeguards and Internal Controls

- Whistleblower hotline
- Appropriate IT policies
- Mandatory vacations
- Appropriate training at all levels
- Annual independent audit

- Board oversight
- Segregation of duties
- Expense report reviews
- Written fraud policy
- Employee Account Reviews



Questions and/or Experiences?



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