

Agenda



Investigation Methodology

04



Data Analysis Capabilities

06



Case Study 1

80



Case Study 2

16



Case Study 3

22







Into the Woods: The Life Cycle of an Investigation



Understand potential sources of investigation allegations and tips, whether internal or external, and their implications.

Sketch out objectives of the investigation, the appropriate scope, the right team, and leadership/communication protocol.

Conduct the investigation with a focus on documents and data, information-gathering interviews, ordering of tasks, development of summary and demonstrative information, and the impacts of COVID-19.

Align investigation results with objectives, including an understanding of stakeholders and regulators, as well as any duties to disclose or self-report.

Present the narrative to management, the board, regulators, or the media appropriately to meet objectives (and comply with best practices).



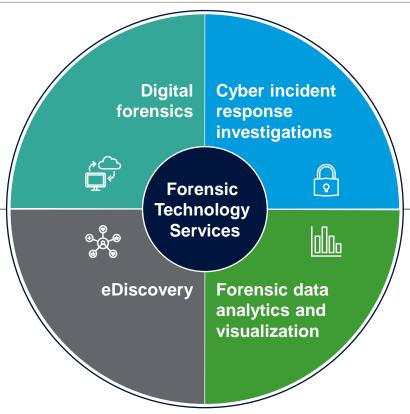


RSM's forensic data mining capability

At RSM, we offer cutting-edge forensic technology solutions to help organizations address complex challenges, mitigate risks and uncover critical insights, while minimizing interruption to our clients' business. Our team of experienced professionals combines deep investigative skills with advanced technologies to provide comprehensive and effective solutions tailored to your specific needs.

Our certified digital forensic professionals leverage state-of-the-art tools and techniques to collect and analyze digital evidence to support investigations, litigation and regulatory compliance matters.

Our certified e-discovery professionals employ robust processes, advanced analytics and AI to develop an appropriate and streamlined approach to the discovery process, given the allegations, the situation and your industry.



Our team provides rapid response and containment services in the event of a cyber incident. We work diligently to identify the source, scope and impact of the incident, help restore systems, and provide guidance—rooted in experience—to enhance your organization's cyber resilience.

Our forensic data analytics professionals utilize AI, machine learning (ML) and other tools to extract insights from complex data sets. We identify patterns, detect anomalies and visualize data to and from data sets across the globe.







CFO Has Keys to the Ferrari

Allegations

- 10-year tenured VP of Finance approached by CEO at YE 2021 regarding overages in payroll budget to actuals for the year ahead of 2022 planning
- Admits on the spot to embezzling more than \$1.7 million over the past three years
- Promised to collaborate in resolving any missing funds

Observations

- Had access to initiate the following:
 - Draws from the company's checking account to pay his personal AMEX credit card bills
 - Fictitious expense reimbursements to himself
 - Additional salary payments to himself
- Coded fictious expenses to "Travel" or "Salaries" general ledger accounts





Work Steps – Unauthorized Draws

Receive company's checking account statements and the statements for company's authorized AMEX credit cards



Using Ocrolus, convert the checking account statements and the AMEX credit card statements to excel



- Compare the credit card payments drawn from the company's checking account to the payments made to the company's authorized credit cards
 - verify the payments made to AMEX matched the payments noted on the authorized credit card statements

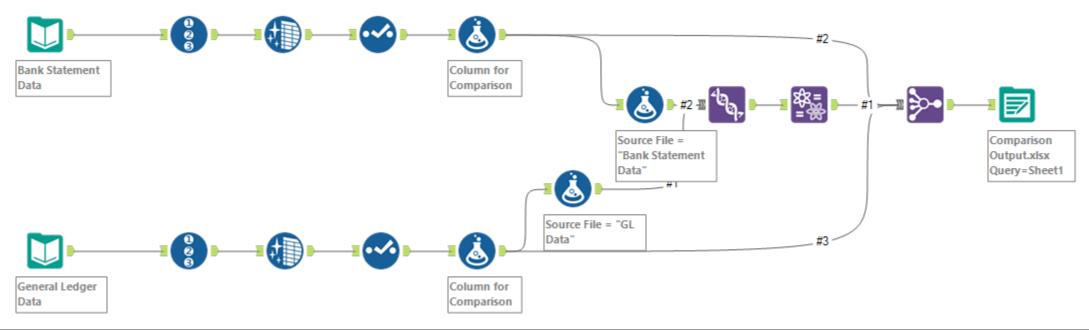


- if a payment was made to a credit card that wasn't matched to a statement, then it was inferred that the payment was made to an unauthorized AMEX credit card
- Compare the payments to credit cards that were deemed unauthorized with the general ledger





Analysis - Compare Bank and GL Data



	Per Bank/Cre	edit Card Statements		Per General Ledger					
Account	▼ Date ▼	Description	Debit -	Credit *	GL Account	GL Posting Date	GL Posting Amount	GL Memo	
CHECKING	12/2/2014	INTERNET PAYMENT ACH PMT AMEX	7,832		60324 · Travel	12/2/2014	7,832	Various travel	
CHECKING	12/29/2014	INTERNET PAYMENT ACH PMT AMEX	15,277		60324 · Travel	12/29/2014	15,277	Various travel	
CHECKING	1/20/2019	INTERNET PAYMENT ACH PMT AMEX	19,322		60324 · Travel	1/20/2015	19,322	Various travel	
CHECKING	2/17/2019	INTERNET PAYMENT ACH PMT AMEX	11,453		60324 · Travel	2/13/2015	11,453	Various travel	
CHECKING	3/3/2015	INTERNET PAYMENT ACH PMT AMEX	21,812		60324 · Travel	3/2/2015	21,812	Various travel	
CHECKING	4/2/2019	INTERNET PAYMENT ACH PMT AMEX	21,804		60324 · Travel	4/1/2015	21,804	Various travel	
CHECKING	4/14/2019	INTERNET PAYMENT ACH PMT AMEX	11,499		60324 · Travel	4/22/2015	11,499	Various travel	



Work Steps – Unreconciled Payroll Expenses

1 Receive VP's personal bank account statements



2 Using Ocrolus, **convert** the personal bank statements to excel



3 Using DataSnipper, **convert** payroll data to excel



Isolate direct deposits made into the personal bank account from the company



compared direct deposit amounts to expected salary amounts

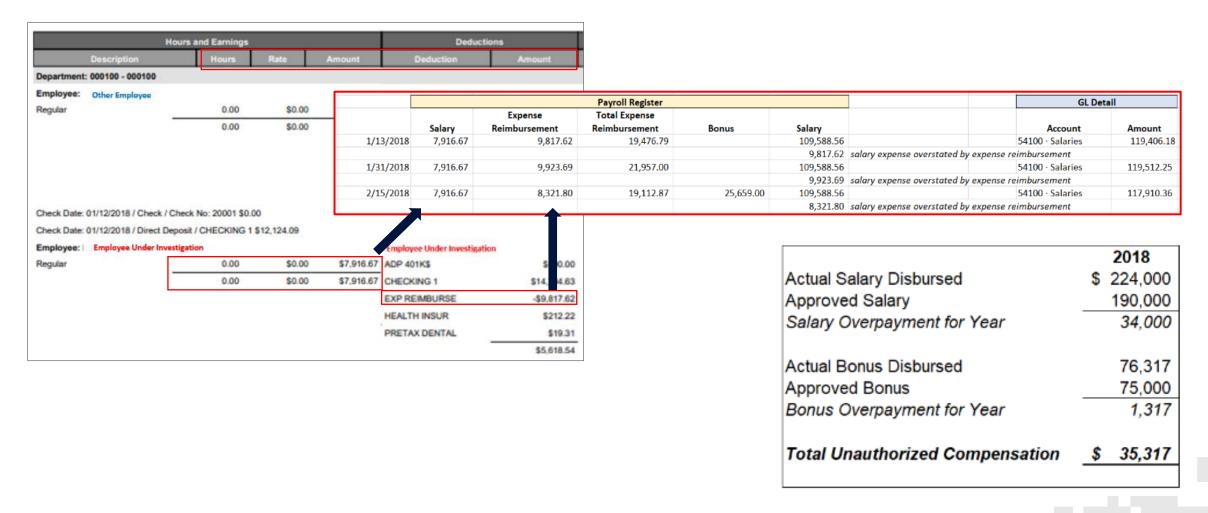


- negative deductions were noted on the payroll registers, but the general ledger only shows an entry to another accounts, such as "Travel"
- payments in several periods were greater than they should have been





Analysis – Compare Payroll Register and GL Data



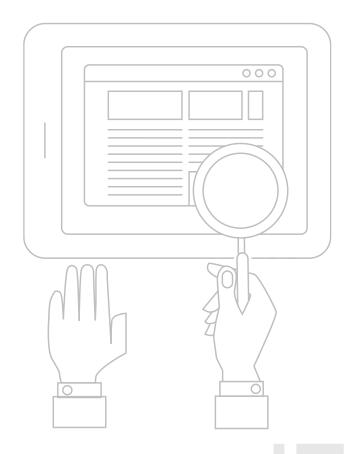


Additional Confirmation with E-Discovery

- Additional suspicious behavior
 - Google searches during unraveling of scheme:

SELL MY TESLA - Google Search	6/9/2021
how to short the property market - Google Search	4/24/2021
financial crime sentencing how long - Google Search	12/15/2021
Fraud Sentencing Statistics LawInfo	12/15/2021
No Lawyers Found in Falls Church, VA - LawInfo	12/15/2021
how many years conviction financial crime - Google Search	12/15/2021
Federal Sentencing Guidelines Penalties Criminal Defense	12/15/2021
how to delete linkedin account - Google Search	12/15/2021
account closure form barclays - Google Search	12/15/2021
how to connect to wifi macbook - Google Search	12/15/2021

- Inside attempts for business email compromise
 - Creation of similar-but-different company email address to solicit changes to banking information
 - "@acbcompany.com" instead of "@abccompany.com"





Findings







Office Manager Pays Self Very Well

Allegations

- Office manager suspected of payroll fraud over a nineyear period shortly after she resigns from the company.
- After internal investigation completed and evidence provided to the US Secret Service, ex-office manager pleads guilty to embezzling over \$1.8 million knowing she's under federal investigation.
- Recently sentenced to 51-month federal prison term.

Observations

- Had access to initiate the following:
 - Banking online system to process all payroll.
 - Access to all accounting and record keeping.
 - Additional payroll amounts to self, every pay period.
- Coded actual vendor payments at amounts higher than the actual vendor invoice to offset the higher payroll amounts processed for her own paycheck; and reconciled the bank accounts.





Work Steps – Unauthorized Payroll Amounts

Receive company's checking account statements, bank direct deposit data, payroll register reports, and general ledger data investigation for period under investigation.



Using Ocrolus, **convert** the checking account statements to identify all payroll related direct deposit withdrawals from the company's bank account.



Compare employee's actual direct deposit amount to net pay amount in PR register.



 Identified bi-weekly payroll variances aggregating to over \$1.8 million in unauthorized payroll.



Review accounting system audit logs.



Identified method to perpetrate the payroll fraud scheme by the ex-office manager.



Using Alteryx, **compare** the cash withdrawals in the bank statement data to cash withdrawals in the general ledger identifying dollar amount variances tied to the payroll scheme.

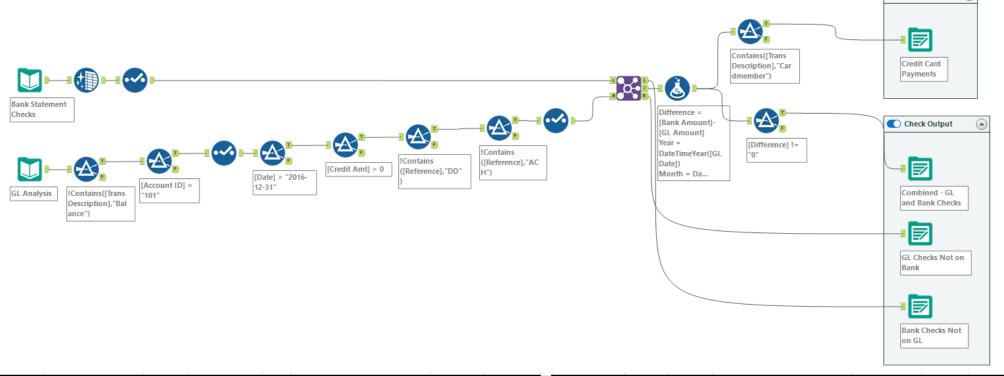


Identified use of vendor invoices as means to cover up fraud.



CC Output

Analysis - Compare Bank and GL Data



	General Ledger Detail									Bank Statement Detail											
RecordID_GL	Account ID	Account Description	Date	Reference	Jrnl	Trans Description	Debit	Amt	Cred	lit Amt	RecordID_Bai	k Acco	ount D	ate	Description	Check Number	Debit	С	redit	Difference	e Notes
2259	101	New Checking Account	2/24/2021	19576	CDJ	Company #1	\$	-	\$	45,180	24	01 XXXX	(3/4/2021	CHECK	19576	\$ 35,	80 \$	-	\$ (10,00	(0)
2703	101	New Checking Account	1/29/2021	Direct Deposit	PRJ	Direct Deposit	\$	-	\$ 1	156,178	23	30 XXXX	(1	1/28/2021	XXXX PAYROLL		\$149,4	75 \$	-	\$ (6,70	J3)
2267	101	New Checking Account	3/1/2021	ACH	CDJ	Company #2	\$	-	\$	5,485	24	04 XXXX	(3/5/2021	COMPANY2PURCHASE		\$ 2	218 \$	-	\$ (5,26	i6)
2215	101	New Checking Account	1/11/2021	ACH01/10/2022	CDJ	Company #2	\$	-	\$	5,282	22	85 XXXX	(1/5/2021	COMPANY2PURCHASE		\$ 2	205 \$	-	\$ (5,07	7)
2713	101	New Checking Account	6/15/2021	Direct Deposit	PRJ	Direct Deposit	\$	-	\$	73,064	26	02 XXXX	(6	6/14/2021	XXXX PAYROLL		\$ 68,5	96 \$	-	\$ (4,46	i8)
2234	101	New Checking Account	1/15/2021	19493	CDJ	Company #1	\$	-	\$	12,638	23	24 XXXX	(1	1/25/2021	XXXX POSITIVE PAY	19493	\$ 8,6	38 \$	-	\$ (4,00	(0)
2714	101	New Checking Account	6/30/2021	Direct Deposit	PRJ	Direct Deposit	\$	-	\$	33,171	26	29 XXXX	(6	5/29/2021	XXXX PAYROLL		\$ 29,5	89 \$	-	\$ (3,58	32)
2246	101	New Checking Account	1/15/2021	19506	CDJ	Company #3	\$	-	\$	2,341	23	03 XXXX	(1	1/19/2021	CHECK	19506	\$ 3	841 \$	-	\$ (2,00	0)



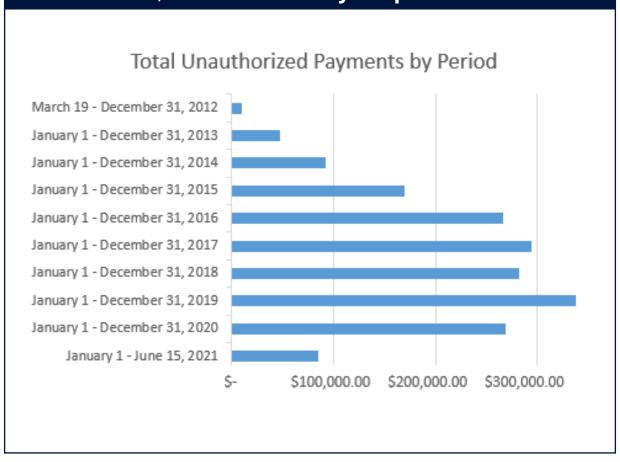
Analysis - Compare Payroll Register and Bank Direct Deposits

	ALL DIRECT DEI	POSIT AMOUNTS			OFFICER MANAG	ER DIRECT DEPOSI				
Per F	ayroll Registers	Per Bank Stmt	Overall		Bank		Pay Register		Overall	
Date	▼ Amount ▼	- Amount -	Difference 💌	▼ ACH Create Da ▼ A	CH Transaction Da 💌	Amount 🔻 🔻	Amount 💌	Difference 🔻 🔻	Differenc ▼	Notes ▼
5/31	/2019 27,306.16	36,306.16	(9,000.00)	5/30/2019	5/31/2019	10,189.15	1,189.15	(9,000.00)	-	
N/A	-	7,300.00	(7,300.00)	6/4/2019	6/4/2019	7,300.00	-	(7,300.00)	-	Office Manager Additional Payment Processed
6/14	/2019 60,199.71	73,199.71	(13,000.00)	6/13/2019	6/14/2019	14,061.23	1,061.23	(13,000.00)	-	
6/28	/2019 30,344.98	38,309.70	(7,964.72)	6/27/2019	6/28/2019	9,053.72	1,089.00	(7,964.72)	-	
7/15	/2019 64,022.61	78,261.20	(14,238.59)	7/12/2019	7/15/2019	15,447.32	1,208.73	(14,238.59)	-	
7/31	/2019 194,111.84	210,111.84	(16,000.00)	7/30/2019	7/31/2019	17,342.36	1,342.36	(16,000.00)	-	
8/15	/2019 64,475.53	87,275.53	(22,800.00)	8/12/2019	8/15/2019	24,008.73	1,208.73	(22,800.00)	-	
8/30	/2019 29,007.50	62,007.50	(33,000.00)	8/29/2019	8/30/2019	34,208.73	1,208.73	(33,000.00)	-	
9/16	/2019 66,957.07	81,941.29	(14,984.22)	9/13/2019	9/16/2019	21,075.11	1,075.11	(20,000.00)	5,016.00	See Tab 4.1
9/30	/2019 29,828.93	47,102.84	(17,273.91)	9/27/2019	9/30/2019	18,691.38	1,191.38	(17,500.00)	226.00	See Tab 4.1
N/A	-	10,801.00	(10,801.00)	10/15/2019	10/16/2019	10,801.00	-	(10,801.00)	-	Office Manager Additional Payment Processed
10/15	/2019 66,354.08	66,354.08	-	10/15/2019	10/15/2019	1,191.38	1,191.38	-	-	This payroll was paid by checks
10/31	/2019 125,370.35	146,370.35	(21,000.00)	10/30/2019	10/31/2019	22,325.01	1,325.01	(21,000.00)	-	
11/15	/2019 62,167.25	73,167.25	(11,000.00)	11/14/2019	11/15/2019	12,214.90	1,214.90	(11,000.00)	-	
11/29	/2019 29,007.37	49,007.37	(20,000.00)	11/27/2019	11/29/2019	21,081.28	1,081.28	(20,000.00)	-	
N/A	-	6,751.48	(6,751.48)	12/5/2019	12/6/2019	6,751.48	-	(6,751.48)	-	Office Manager Additional Payment Processed
12/16	/2019 61,867.50	72,867.50	(11,000.00)	12/13/2019	12/16/2019	12,081.28	1,081.28	(11,000.00)	-	



Findings

Total loss amount estimated at more than \$1.8 million in 9 year period







Gallery Owner Shaves a Little Off the Top

Allegations

- Gallery owner accused of stealing from their artists by shaving money off the sale before reporting the sale to the artists
- Artists were underpaid 20-60% than what they were owed
- Promised to resolve the claims promptly and professionally

Process

- Gallery owner sold a piece of art to a buyer at one price
- Gallery owner creates an artist statement for the artists whose piece was sold at another, lower price
- Gallery owner alleged to pocket the difference in sale price and still receives their share of the sale at the lowered price





Work Steps

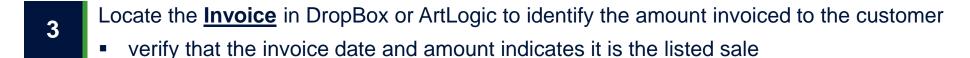
1 Generate list of all sold works for the artist from ArtLogic



Locate the <u>Artist Statement</u> in DropBox to identify the sale amount disclosed and amount paid to the artist (search in Artist Statement Folder, if not search by stock #, or buyer name)



- verify that date and buyer correlates to the listed sale
- if a sale occurred earlier, document the amount of the original





Locate evidence of customer payment for the Sale in Quickbooks to confirm the invoice agrees to the amount sold



Sales -> Invoices -> Year, filter by No.



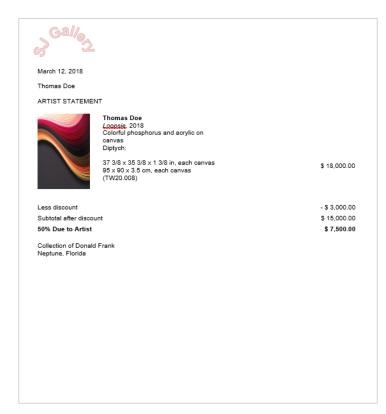


Expenses -> Vendor -> search by date



Source Data – Artist Statements









Source Data - Sales Invoices



December 15, 2016 INVOICE 2023B0038

Thomas Doe 2 190 Leopold Lane Dumbo, New York 11962

INVOICE



Thomas Doe 2 Le Paladium, 2015 Acrylic and red phosphorous on paper 24 3/4 x 18 3/4 in, 63 x 47.5 cm (unframed) 27 1/2 x 21 1/2 in, 69.8 x 54.6 cm (framed) (TW25.32)

 Less discount
 -\$1,000.00

 Involce Total
 \$ 4,500.00

 Payment received
 -\$ 3,000.00

 Total due
 \$ 1,500.00

« Article 39 CTVA - exportation of goods»

PAYMENT DUE UPON RECEIPT. Gallery does not extend any refunds. If payment is not received 30 calendar days after invoice date, the gallery reserves the right to void the sale.

Gallery shall have a right of first refusal with respect to any sale by Purchaser of the Artwork, beginning on the date Purchaser provides payment in full for the Artwork to Gallery and continuing for a period of three (3) years thereafter. Prior to any proposed sale of the Artwork, Purchaser must first offer the Artwork to Gallery in writing specifying the terms and conditions of the proposed sale, after which Gallery shall have thirty (30) days to elect to purchase the Artwork upon the terms so provided by Purchaser (Fallery does not elect to purchase the Artwork during this time, Purchaser shall be free to sell the Artwork to a third-party buyer, provided that Purchaser may not sell the Artwork on more favorable terms than offered to Gallery without first offering the Artwork to Gallery on those more favorable terms and conditions.

Purchaser further agrees not to sell the Artwork at public auction for a period of three (3) years from the date of this Invoice.

Title does not pass until payment is received in full. All expenses related to packing, shipping and insurance are to be paid by the collector. Once payment is made, insurance responsibility transfers to the owner.



December 30, 2020 INVOICE 2023B0042

Thomas Doe 190 Leopold Lane Dumbo, New York 11962

INVOICE



Thomas Doe OKDCYF, 2018 Acrylic and red phosphorous on paper 24 3/4 x 18 3/4 in 63 x 47.5 cm (TW20.043)

Thomas Doe
Cordial, 2018
Acrylic and red
phosphorous on paper
\$ 4,000.00

24 3/4 x 18 3/4 in, 63 x 47.5 cm (unframed) 27 1/2 x 21 1/2 in, 69.8 x 54.6 cm (framed) (TW20.042)

 Less discount
 -\$ 1,500.00

 Involce Total
 \$ 6,500.00

 Payment received
 -\$ 3,000.00

 Total due
 \$ 3,500.00

« Article 39 CTVA - exportation of goods»

PAYMENT DUE UPON RECEIPT. Gallery does not extend any refunds. If payment is not received 30 calendar days after invoice date, the gallery reserves the right to void the sale.

Gallery shall have a right of first refusal with respect to any sale by Purchaser of the Artwork, beginning on the date Purchaser provides payment in full for the Artwork to Gallery and continuing for a period of three (3) years thereafter. Prior to any proposed sale of the Artwork, Purchaser must first offer the Artwork to Gallery in writing specifying the terms and conditions of the proposed sale, after which Gallery shall have thirty (30) days to elect to purchase the Artwork upon the terms so provided by Purchaser, shall have thirty (30) days to elect to purchase the Artwork upon the terms so provided by Purchaser. Artwork to a third-party buyer, provided that Purchaser may not sell the Artwork on more favorable terms than offered to Gallery without first offering the Artwork to Gallery on those more favorable terms and conditions.

Page 1 of 2

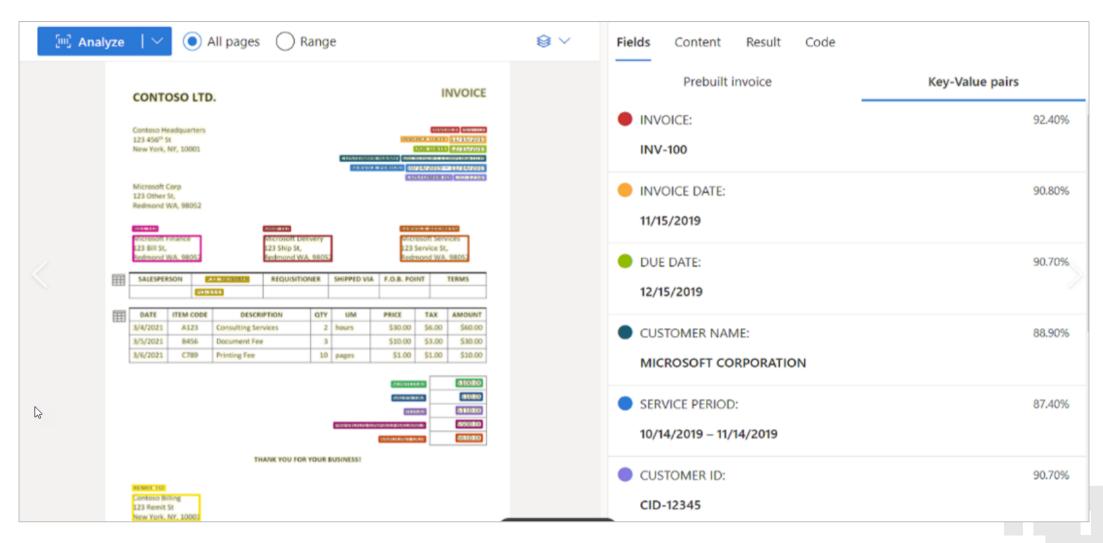
\$ 4,000.00

Page 1 of 2

\$ 5,500.00



Azure Data Factory and Al Document Intelligence





Analysis with Azure and Alteryx Output – 1 Artist

Stoc	:k#	Invoice number	Sale Date	Artist Statement Date	Net Value per Invoice	Net Value per Artist Statement	Variance	Amount Owed to Artist (50%)	Category		
		2015.0144	2015-08-27	2016-02-13	\$7,165	\$5,184	\$1,981	0000	Per Gallerist, varia	nce is justified - no am	nount
		2015.0128	2015-08-27	2010-02-13	\$7,163	\$3,184	\$1,981	\$990		f scope - not entered in	n Gallery
		2023.0121	2023-03-20	2023-07-19	\$35,200	\$35,200	\$0	\$0	No variance betwe	en Invoice and Artist S	Statement
		2018.0176	2018-06-26	2018-08-16	\$12,600	\$12,600	\$0	\$0	No variance betwe	en Invoice and Artist S	Statement
		2022.0111	2022-02-17	2015-09-26	\$28,000	\$5,967	\$22,033	\$11,017		nce is justified - no am	nount
		2016.0113	2016-05-10		\$6,250	\$0			Missing Artist Statement		
		2016.0004	2016-01-16	2015-09-26	\$7,920	\$5,112	\$2,808	\$1,404	Per Gallerist, variance is justified - no amount owed		
		2015.0160	2015-09-19	2015-09-26	\$7,800	\$5,112	\$2,688	\$1,344		nce is justified - no am	nount
		2015.0155	2015-09-11	2015-09-26	\$6,630	\$5,432	\$1,199	\$599	Per Gallerist, varia	nce is justified - no am	nount
		2016.0182	2016-09-22	2016-09-29	\$9,696	\$6,087	\$3,609	\$1,804	Artist is owed 50%	of discrepancy	
			0 2015-08-12	2015-09-26	\$0	\$5,751	(\$5,751)	(\$2,876)	76) Larger Discount on invoice not passed (ı to artist
			0 2016-05-06	2016-05-11	\$0	\$5,751	(\$5,751)	(\$2,876)	Larger Discount or	n invoice not passed or	ı to artist
			0 2015-09-03	2015-09-26	\$0	\$5,432	<u> </u>	Ø2 71 C	T D: .		<u></u>
			0 2015-09-09	2015-09-26	\$0	\$5,751	De	etermination	Number	Transaction Amount	lde Va

\$8,800

\$0

2016.0165

2016-08-11

0 2016-05-05

2016-08-13

2016-05-11

\$6,404

\$5,751

Determination	Number	Transaction Amount	Identified Variance	Gallerist Agreed Discrepancy	Amount Owed Artist
No Variance Identified	87	\$1,869,297	(\$0)	(\$0)	(\$0)
Reconciled – Bookkeeping Error	9	\$180,322	\$12,125	\$0	\$0
Reconciled – Gallerist Note	88	\$1,037,460	(\$24,101)	\$0	\$0
Unreconciled	21	\$283,105	\$37,784	\$37,784	\$18,892
Total	205	\$3,370,185	\$25,808	\$37,784	\$18,892



Presenters



Leo Munoz CPA/CFF, CFE Managing Director

Leo has more than 30 years of accounting, finance and management experience in public accounting, in industry, and as a business owner. Over the last 15 years, Leo has led the firm's forensic accounting and litigation support practice in the Texas market managing a team of consultants involved in both commercial based litigation support and corporate financial investigations. Mr. Munoz is a frequent presenter on corporate fraud and financial investigation matters.



Rebekah Wood Senior Associate

Rebekah is a Senior Associate in the Financial Investigations and Dispute Services (FIDS) practice. She joined RSM's FIDS practice 2 years ago, where she has focused on forensic accounting, financial investigations, litigation support, and data analytics.



THE POWER OF BEING UNDERSTOODASSURANCE | TAX | CONSULTING

This document contains general information, may be based on authorities that are subject to change, and is not a substitute for professional advice or services. This document does not constitute audit, tax, consulting, business, financial, investment, legal or other professional advice, and you should consult a qualified professional advisor before taking any action based on the information herein. RSM US LLP, its affiliates and related entities are not responsible for any loss resulting from or relating to reliance on this document by any person. Internal Revenue Service rules require us to inform you that this communication may be deemed a solicitation to provide tax services. This communication is being sent to individuals who have subscribed to receive it or who we believe would have an interest in the topics discussed.

RSM US LLP is a limited liability partnership and the U.S. member firm of RSM International, a global network of independent audit, tax and consulting firms. The member firms of RSM International collaborate to provide services to global clients, but are separate and distinct legal entities that cannot obligate each other. Each member firm is responsible only for its own acts and omissions, and not those of any other party. Visit rsmus.com/aboutus for more information regarding RSM US LLP and RSM International.

RSM, the RSM logo and The power of being understood are registered trademarks of RSM International Association, used under license.

© 2024 RSM US LLP. All Rights Reserved.