

YOUR FORENSIC BOOKSHELF

Tim Louwers

Financial Investigation and Forensic Accounting

George A. Manning

©1999, 488 pp., \$ 69.95

CRC Press

Embezzlement, graft, fraud and money laundering are some of the hardest crimes to prosecute. Investigation and detection are impossible without an understanding of the law, accounting, finance, and banking procedures. Law enforcement needs the proper weapons to combat the evolving sophistication of financial crimes. This book offers a thorough examination of current methods and legal concerns for the detection and prosecution of economic crime.

The author, an IRS agent with 15 years of experience, guides law enforcement agents and prosecutors from initial detection through indictment to ultimate conviction. He explains the mechanics of gambling, fraud and money laundering. He also illustrates how prosecutors present the tax codes, offshore banking laws, and the RICO statutes to judges and juries. Finally, the work is a guidebook for error-free prosecution, detailing

the exacting legal standards for the successful execution of warrants, seizures and forfeitures. Some key features make the book especially useful to accountants and law enforcement officials:

- Explanations of complex issues such as seizures, forfeitures, and warrants in a easy-to-follow format with capitalized key words and certain sections in outline form.
- Sources for offshore banking information by country, with many of the smaller Caribbean nations included.
- Exhibits of Forms 4789 (Currency Transaction Report), 4790 (Report of International Transportation of Currency), 8300 (Report of Cash Payments over \$10,000), and other useful reports.
- RICO net worth schedules, tax net worth schedules, gross profit analysis schedules, and more, in dozens of concise tables and illustrations.
- Tips on presenting successful testimony.

The book's multidisciplinary approach, integrating accounting, law enforcement, and financial savvy, provides an invaluable resource in the detection and prosecution of economic crimes.

Tim Louwers is Associate Professor of Accounting at Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, LA USA.