



A conversation with



Webinar on Financial Crimes



Friday, 12 February 2021

17:30 HRS (IST)



John A Cassara

Author, speaker and global expert in
AML/CFT and TBML

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With the significant development of the financial transactions environment over the last three decades, the anti-money laundering (AML) enforcement framework has also undergone a remarkable transformation. From cumbersome, slow, paper driven and expensive international trade transactions to today's ecosystem with unprecedented developments in payment processing speed, digitalized data, advanced analytics, complex financial products and totally integrated global trade. Not surprisingly, criminals have also kept pace with this change. Over time, they have refined their abilities to move illicit financial flows via trade transactions, in particular, at the press of a computer key. This has created huge challenges for financial institutions, law enforcement agencies and governments in trying to stem the concentric increases of incidents involving illicit financial flows.

In order to understand where we stand in terms of our ability to tackle financial crimes, inter alia, including trade-based money laundering (TBML) and terrorism financing (TF), this conversation will take us through the complex world of how we can take the criminal actors head on in our efforts to curb this growing menace, we have learnt to recognize as TBML/TF.

Having a 26-year career in the U.S. intelligence and law enforcement communities, John is considered an expert in AML and terrorist financing, with particular expertise in the areas of money laundering and the growing threat of alternative remittance systems and forms of TBML and value transfer.

He invented the concept of international 'Trade Transparency Units,' an innovative countermeasure to entrenched forms of TBML & TF. He is one of the very few to have been both a clandestine operations officer in the U.S. intelligence community & a Special Agent for the Department of Treasury.

Since his retirement, John has lectured around the world on a variety of transnational crime issues. He has consulted for government and industry, testified before Congressional committees on matters dealing with money laundering, threat finance, transnational crime and trade-based money laundering. He is on the Board of Directors of Global Financial Integrity. He has also authored and/or co-authored several articles and books, including Hide and Seek, Intelligence, Law Enforcement and the Stalled War on Terrorist Finance, On the Trail of Terror Finance - What Intelligence and Law Enforcement Officers Need to Know, Trade-Based Money Laundering: The Next Frontier in International Money Laundering, Money Laundering and Illicit Financial Flows: Following the Money and Value Trails.

Ganesh is a banking consultant with 40+ years of experience in the financial service industry in India and abroad. Over years, he has worked as a commercial lender, compliance and trade specialist and more recently as a re-skilling specialist and anti financial crime trainer and investigator. He is a member of the ICC India Working Group of Banking and Finance and regularly conducts workshops and seminars on these topics.

With extensive experience in Banking, International Trade, Shipping, Marine Insurance, International Payment, Clearing and Settlement Systems, Commercial Lending, Compliance, Treasury and Risk Management, Trade Based Money Laundering, AML/CFT etc., Ganesh is uniquely placed to share his experiences and knowledge towards ramping up the participants skills in Banking, International Cash Operations, Commercial Lending, International Trade, Compliance & Risk Management and Financial Crimes.