

TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF BANKING

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Conference of State Bank Supervisors (CSBS) Releases BSA/AML Self-Assessment Tool

The Bank Secrecy Act and related federal and state law requirements are the first line of defense against financial crimes. Financial institutions and financial service providers play an important role in minimizing these risks. It is important that banks, trust companies, and money services businesses are able to effectively identify, monitor and communicate Bank Secrecy Act/Anti-money Laundering (BSA/AML) risks. For many, particularly small, non-complex institutions or businesses, these requirements command significant compliance resources.

To help manage new and evolving risks associated with BSA/AML, state regulators, including the Texas Department of Banking, have worked with the Conference of State Bank Supervisors (CSBS) to develop and release the new <u>BSA/AML Self-Assessment Tool</u>. The Department is not requiring the use of this tool, but encourages using this tool as a supplemental instrument to strengthen BSA/AML risk management programs.

While developing the Assessment Tool, state regulators worked to balance standardization and flexibility. The Assessment Tool is intended to help the financial services industry have a consistent framework for assessing and communicating internally about their BSA/AML risk management program in a format that is customizable to the risk profile of individual institutions or service providers.

CSBS has made this Assessment Tool and supplemental documents available on its <u>website</u>. If you have questions, comments, or feedback about the tool, please <u>email</u> the CSBS.