

8th Annual AuditLink Conversations on Compliance

Wednesday, May 17th 2023



Jim Vilker
NCCO, CAMS VP of Professional
Services AuditLink, CU*Answers

Mr. Vilker has been in the credit union compliance, regulatory, and audit space for over 30 years. Over that time, he has served as a regulator, credit union executive, and currently as the leader of AuditLink, a division of cooperative CUSO CU*Answers. Jim's tenure at CU*Answers began in 1998 where his knowledge and skills were immediately recognized, becoming resident advisor on regulatory compliance and audit functions. Mr. Vilker was also instrumental in developing the AuditLink business. As the leader of AuditLink, Jim has assisted in the development of state-of-the-art core data processing solutions in the areas of compliance, audit, and risk management for CU*Answers' flagship product, CU*BASE. Jim has propelled AuditLink into several business lines including daily BSA and high-risk activity monitoring for credit unions, and consulting services in loan portfolio risk management, ALM assumption review, automated vendor management solutions, and more.

Jim's depth of knowledge into regulations in the financial institution industry coupled with his ability to build solutions to drive down the burden of compliance has been critical in the development of CU*Answers' and AuditLink's reputation as a trusted partner for credit unions in auditing and compliance. Jim achieved his NAFCU Certified Compliance Officer (NCCO) designation in 2009 and recently received his Certified Anti-Money Laundering Specialist (CAMS) certification from ACAMS. He is an active and frequent speaker at industry events nationwide, speaking on the topics of BSA, compliance, and auditing best practices.



Patrick Sickels
Internal Auditor

Patrick Sickels began his career as an attorney, and quickly branched out into the technological services industry, where he used his legal skills to help companies manage their compliance requirements. Patrick used these skills to develop into a classically trained auditor and risk manager. At CU*Answers, Patrick's background of law and technology make him uniquely suited to assist credit union clients in managing their risk requirements with a minimum of cost.

Patrick is a licensed Certification Information Systems Auditor (CISA) and is pursuing the Certified in Risk and Information Systems Control (CRISC) designation. Patrick has done extensive work in designing risk models and control frameworks for a vast array of commercial, manufacturing, and financial firms. Patrick's specialty is the design of compliance models which meet legal standards at the lowest possible cost for the organization.



AJ Schalk
Assistant Vice President of AuditLink

AJ Schalk began his professional career in 2013 where he co-founded a printing company out of his parents' garage. In a few short years AJ developed a strategy to develop contracts with other print shops to complete their overflow work which helped the business grow exponentially. Using his skills as a great communicator and marketer the business was able to expand into a warehouse and hire employees to complete the work. In 2021 AJ decided he wanted to depart from the printing industry and get into the Credit Union industry. AJ joined the CU*Answers Network originally in Client Services where he got an excellent education on the foundation principles of CU*Answers and the functionality of CU*BASE, our flagship software. Within six months he was promoted to Account Executive on the SettleMINT EFT team where he oversaw the implementation of debit card and bill pay data conversions. Also gaining a greater understanding of the risk assessment necessary within the world of EFT. In 2023 AJ joined the Auditlink team as AVP where he works with alongside Jim Vilker providing crucial Risk Management Services to clients daily. Using his skills as an effective communicator to train credit unions on BSA and high-risk management.





Brian Knight
President & CEO of The National Association of
Credit Union Supervisors

Brian Knight was appointed President and CEO on January 1, 2022. He joined NASCUS in 1998 and had served as NASCUS' general counsel since 2007. In 2014, Mr. Knight was also named executive vice president. In addition to managing NASCUS' legal affairs, Mr. Knight oversaw NASCUS' legislative and regulatory analysis, policy development, advocacy, and compliance guidance. He also oversaw NASCUS' professional development department and Accreditation and State Programs department.

With an extensive background in both legislative and regulatory analyses and a comprehensive knowledge of the state and federal credit union regulatory system, Mr. Knight represents NASCUS speaking at seminars, trade association meetings, and conferences. Mr. Knight has testified before numerous state legislatures on behalf of state regulatory agencies and participated in industry strategic planning sessions.

In 2005, Mr. Knight developed a Bank Secrecy Act/Anti-Money Laundering compliance conference for examiners and credit unions. Held in partnership with CUNA, the conference today remains the largest credit union specific BSA training in the country.

Mr. Knight earned his law degree from the College of William and Mary school of law. Prior, he earned a B.A. in history and political science from Hope College. Mr. Knight is a member of the American Bar Association and the District of Columbia Bar.



Keri Lillie
Partner, Lillie Resource Group

Keri joined Lillie & Company in 2017 after spending two decades working in a Columbus, OH credit union. She began her career in the accounting department and worked her way through virtually all departments and business lines. Ultimately, she joined the Senior Management team and was instrumental in market growth, product development, and strategic planning. She also led the operations, business development, HR, and marketing teams. During her stint, she held the role as BSA Officer and developed a passion for it. She is a certified anti-money laundering specialist and has provided training, sat on panels, and developed educational materials and audit programs.

She and Heather Williams formed Lillie Resource Group because they saw a need to provide more than just an audit. Lillie Resource Group offers a wide variety of compliance audits conducted by experts in the field. In addition to compliance functions at Lillie Resource Group, Keri assists credit unions grow by preparing merger and Field of Membership packages and applications. She counsels credit unions during the process and acts as the project lead so credit union officials can run their credit union while she handles the headache.

Keri has five kids, two bonus kids, and ELEVEN grandchildren. During her down time, she likes to visit wineries, read, and sleep. Her favorite book is Pride and Prejudice (she owns a 1896 peacock edition) and her favorite wine is a bold Cabernet!



Heather Williams
Partner, Lillie Resource Group

Heather Williams is a seasoned BSA Professional with over a decade of experience in BSA. Heather has worked in both banks and credit unions supporting and managing BSA departments. She focuses on working closely with credit unions to ensure their BSA programs are compliant and can stand up to regulatory scrutiny. She and Keri Lillie are the managing partners of Lillie Resource Group. Heather oversees all engagement functions and conducts field audits, consults with Financial Institutions for process improvement, and acts as a resource to BSA teams.

When Heather isn't helping her clients build and enhance their programs, she spends time with her husband, 4 children, one dog, and 2 cats. She enjoys creative arts, reading and researching, and spending time in the garden. She may or may not have built a complete play gym in her backyard wielding power tools.

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Compliance

A CU*Answers Collaboration Group