



## **Accounting Profession and Crime Control in Financial Institutions in Awka, Anambra State**

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### **ABSTRACT**

The study investigates the relationship of accounting profession and crime control in Anambra State. The specific objectives are: To determine the effect forensic accountant on internal control, to examine the effect of forensic accountant on fraud policy and to investigate the effect of forensic accountant on physical security control. Survey research design was adopted. The sample size for the study was 122 respondents and SPSS was used to analyze and test the relationship between variables. We recommended that there should be constant education of staff about fraud policy and the implication of break them and also, government should make forensic accounting more relevant by introducing the subject at the undergraduate level both private and public universities.

**Keywords:** accounting profession, crime control, fraud, financial institutions

### **INTRODUCTION**

Financial crimes in has made it difficult for Nigerian's to meet its welfare and national social responsibilities for its citizens. These evil have assumed alarming proportions and pervasive mismanagement of resources have become the order of the day in public sector (Okunbor & Obaretin, 2010). High level of financial crime and fraud has hindered tax collection, and has also discouraged foreign investment. There has been need for the services of professional accounting services to control crime in organization. Professional account has been using various efforts to reduce crime in organization. Measures like internal control, fraud policy and physical security control has been adopted to fight crime in organizations. The wide spread of crime in public and private sector have made traditional auditing and investigation inefficient and ineffective in detecting fraud. Oyejide (2008) opined that fraud is a subject that has received a lot of attention both globally and in Nigeria.

IFAC (2011), describes a professional accountant as a person who has expertise in the field of accountancy, achieved through formal education and practical experience, and who:

- i) Demonstrates and maintains competence;
- ii) Complies with a code of ethics;
- iii) Is held to a high professional standard; and,
- iv) Is subject to enforcement by a professional accountancy organization or other regulatory mechanism.

They also argued that there are many highly-skilled individuals who may be functioning in one or more roles that may commonly fit within the public's broad understanding of the term "professional accountant," yet such individuals (e.g., accountants in business or providing accounting expertise within an organization) may not fall within the scope of the definition. For example, consider an individual who previously held a certification, license, or credential from a professional accountancy organization but is now working as an accountant for an entity that does not require such credentialing. Although the individual may have previously met the conditions indicated in the proposed definition and continues to work in the field of accountancy, the individual is no longer associated with an official professional accountancy organization and is not covered under any regulatory mechanism, and therefore is not a professional accountant under the proposed definition.

Professional accountant could be financial accountant, cost accountant, management accountant to mention but a few. But an accountant that specializes in fraud related matters is called forensic accountant.

Forensic accounting have been described by Association of Certified Fraud Examiners (ACFE) as the use of professional accounting skills in matters involving potential or actual civil or criminal litigation, including, but not limited to, generally acceptable accounting and audit principles; the determination of lost profits, income, assets, or damages; evaluation of internal controls; fraud; and any other matter involving accounting expertise in the legal system. Forensic accounting also called investigative accounting involves the application of accounting concepts and auditing techniques in resolving legal matters.

Presently, forensic accountants or investigators have been engaged in detecting frauds in different financial and economic crimes. Krstic (2009) suggest the forensic accountants are engaged by the management, owner or other users of financial statements to investigate and document financial frauds or inaccurate materially significant financial information in view of the alarming rate of financial fraud. For effective performance of forensic accounting duty (fraud detection and prevention), a solid knowledge and understanding of accounting and auditing, good communication ability and suitable information technology knowledge is needed.

Forensic accounting is rapidly a growing field of accounting. (Okoye and Gbegi, 2013) agreed that "Forensic" means "suitable for use in a court of law", and it is to that standard that Forensic Accountants generally work. Forensic Accounting is an investigative style of accounting used to determine whether an individual or an organization has engaged in any illegal financial activities.

Although, forensic accounting has been in existence for several years, it has evolved over time to include several types of financial information scrutiny. Forensic accounting can, therefore, be seen as an aspect of accounting that is suitable for legal review and offering the highest level of assurance (Apostolou, Hassell & Webber, 2000). It is in this light; this paper analyzed accountants and crime control in manufacturing and financial organization

### **Statement of problem**

Numerous research efforts has been made in examining how forensic accountants can control crime in both corporate and private organization, however, most of these research focuses on using internal control and fraud policy. However, there has not been adequate emphasis, especially survey evidence on how forensic accounting can help curtail financial crimes crime in an organization using these variables physical security control. This has been identified to help curb crime in organization. This paper has identified this as a gap.

### **Objective of the study**

The aim of this study is establish the relationship between forensic accountant and crime control in organization in Awka, Anambra State.

The specific objectives are:

1. To determine the effect forensic accountant on internal control
2. To examine the effect of forensic accountant on fraud policy
3. To investigate the effect of forensic accountant on physical security control.

### **Scope of the study**

This study will take a critical look at professional accountants and their impact in controlling crime in firms. To this end, the content scope will be physical security control, internal control and fraud policy. This research work will examine the crime control activities in selected financial institution in Anambra State, south east, Nigeria for the period from 2013 to 2018.

### **Limitation**

The research work concentrated only on financial institution in Awka, Anambra State. Also some respondents were also afraid of giving out information because it may affect their job insecurity. However, the information gathered from respondents were about eighty percent, where now generalized.

## **LITERATURE REVIEW**

### **Conceptual frame work**

Forensic accounting services have not been so much in demand in the previous decades due to the relatively low level rate of fraud. But in growing spate of corporate scandals and collapse of corporate organizations (Izedonm & Ibadin 2012), instigated mainly by fraudulent activities of the management and people in position of managing and public funds have made the relevance of forensic accounting in building credibility and reliance on the operations more important. The importance of forensic accounting in curbing fraud is inevitable specifically in the Nigerian public sector where most management of the institutions are involved in one form of financial scandal or the other.

In the late 1940s, forensic accounting had become popular during World War II, but major academic studies in the field were published in the 1980s (Rasey, 2009). Thus, a new profession emerged in the field of accounting in the 1980s with interest from western countries and especially in the USA. This new profession identifies fields comprising accounting, auditing and investigative skills (Ozkul and Pamuke, 2012).

According to Singleton and Singleton (2010), forensic accounting dates back to the days of pharaoh in Egypt as his eyes and ears were people who watched over his inventories of grain, gold and other assets.

Also they view forensic accounting to comprise fraud investigation, prevention of fraud and analysis of antifraud controls in addition to gathering nonfinancial information. However, forensic accounting according to Crumbley (2003) involves forensic science which may be defined as application of the laws of nature to the laws of man. He opined that forensic scientists as examiners and interpreters of evidence and facts in legal cases also offer expert opinion concerning their findings in a court of law.

The term “forensic accounting was coined by Peloubet in 1946, he said, forensic accounting is the application of accounting knowledge and investigative skills to identify and resolve legal issues. It is the science of using accounting as a tool to identify and develop proof of money flow. These tools and/or techniques, skills and knowledge can be invaluable for fraud and forensic accounting investigators.”

Forensic accounting is the integration of accounting, auditing and investigative skills (Dada, Owolabi & Okwu, 2013), (Zysman, 2004). Dhar and Sarkar (2010) define forensic accounting as the application of accounting concepts and techniques to legal problems. It demands reporting, where accountability of the fraud is established and the report is considered as evidence in the court of law or in administrative proceedings.

Joshi (2003) further sees forensic accounting as the application of specialized knowledge and specified skill to stumble up on the evidence of economic transactions. Dhar and Sarkar (2010) defined forensic accounting as the application of accounting concepts and techniques to legal problems. While Degboro and Olofinsola (2007) in their view noted that forensic investigation is about the determination and establishment of fact in support of legal case. That is, to use forensic techniques to detect and investigate a crime is to expose all its attending features and identify the culprits.

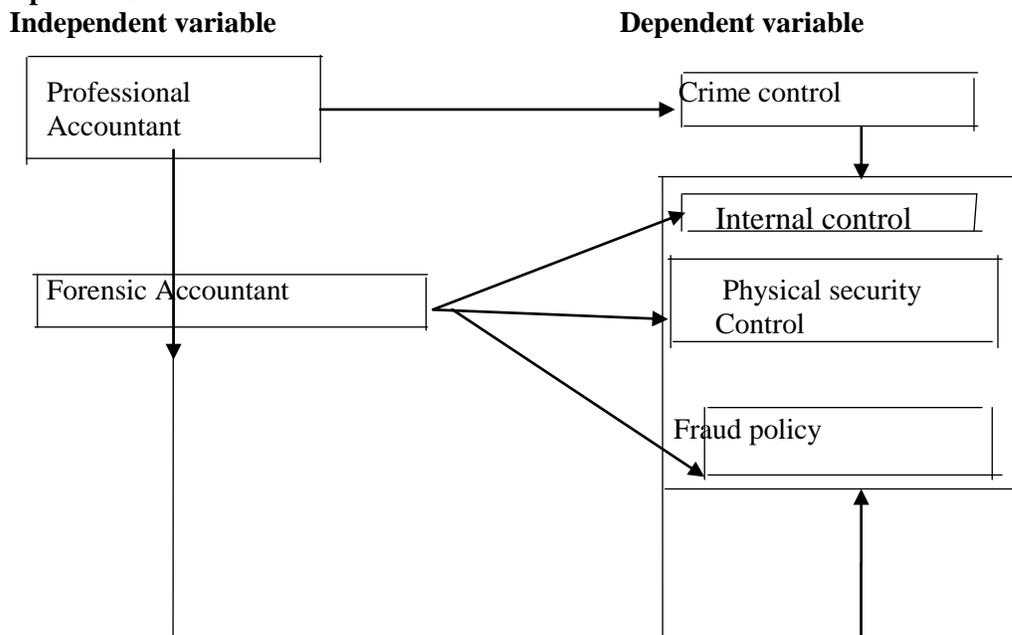
In the view of Howard and Sheetz (2006), forensic accounting is the process of interpreting, summarizing and presenting complex financial issues clearly, succinctly and factually often in a court of law as an expert. It is concerned with the use of accounting discipline to help determine issues of facts in business litigation (Okunbor and Obaretin, 2010). Hopwood, Leiner, and Young (2008) define forensic accounting as the application of investigative and analytical skills for the purpose of resolving financial issues in a

manner that meets standards required by courts of law. It is the integration of accounting, auditing and investigative skills (Dada, Owolabi & Okwu, 2013). The American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (2000) asserted that forensic accounting has to do with applying principles of accounting, theories of accounting and discipline of accounting to facts and hypothesis at issues as it concerns legal dispute and comprises all branch of knowledge in accounting. Ijeoma (2015) defined it as an aspect of accounting growing rapidly and explains the engagement resulting from real or expected dispute or litigations. It involves reporting of fraud which is produced as facts in the courtroom (Crumbley, 2001; Joshi, 2003; Mehta and Mathur, 2007; Rezaee *et al.*, 2006), sees it as concerning with using accounting profession to help establish issues that are facts in the business of litigation. Daminola and Olofinsola (2007) asserted that forensic accounting means applying methods of criminalities and incorporation of the accounting investigation activities and the procedures of law for the detection and investigation of financial crimes and associated economic misdeeds. Crumbley *et al.* (2009) explains forensic accounting to mean a process that identifies, records, sets, extracts, sorts, reports and verifies earlier period financial records or other activities concerning accounting to settle legal disputes currently and in the future or use the past financial data to project potential financial data in settling legal dispute. Jafaru (2011) sees forensic accounting as applying financial skills and mindset investigation to conduct as contained by the framework of the rules of evidence for resolving issues that are not resolved. Krell (2002) sees it as frequently involving in comprehensive detailed effort to penetrate tactics of concealment. Forensic accounting involve the use of accounting, investigating and auditing knowledge, tactics and techniques in producing evidence of financial malpractices that meets the criteria to be used in the law court in the prosecution of an individual, group or organization. The evidence can be used for or against the suspect in the court of law

According to Curtis (2008), forensic accountants are essential to the legal system, providing expert services such as fake invoicing valuations, suspicious bankruptcy valuations, and analysis of financial documents in fraud schemes. Crumbley (2003) defined forensic science as the application of laws of nature to the laws of man. He described forensic scientists as examiners and interpreters of evidence and facts in legal cases that also offers expert opinions regarding their findings in court of law.

Dhar and Sarkar (2010) define forensic accounting as the application of accounting concepts and techniques to legal problems.

**Conceptual model**



Source: Ikechukwu Osonwa

**Fraud policy:** these are policy set by organization. This is a document set out the policy and procedures against fraud and other form of dishonesty. It differs from organization to organization.

**Internal control:** is a process for assuring of an organization's objectives in effectiveness and efficiency, reliable financial reporting, and compliance with laws, regulations and policies.

### **Forensic Accounting**

According to the Association of Certified Fraud Examiners (ACFE) forensic accounting is the use of skills in potential or real civil or criminal disputes, including generally accepted accounting and auditing principles; establishing losses or profit, income, property or damage, estimations of internal controls, frauds and others that involve inclusion of accounting expertise into the legal system.

### **Importance of Forensic Accountant in Nigeria**

The importance of forensic accountants can be clearly understood from the context of failure in statutory audits to detect and prevent fraud as summarized by Owojori and Asaolu (2009). A forensic accountant can be relevant in the following ways:

#### **i) Assist Police Force in Investigation**

A forensic accountant engages himself in criminal investigation on behalf of police force (Eiya and Otolor, 2013), where his report is prepared with the objective of presenting evidence in a professional and concise manner.

#### **ii) Improve Management Accountability**

Ramaswany (2009) states that failure of corporate communication structure has made the financial community realize that there is a great need for skilled professionals that can identify, expose and prevent weaknesses in three key areas: poor corporate governance, flawed internal controls, and fraudulent financial statement. Forensic accounting skills are becoming increasingly relied upon within a corporate reporting system that emphasizes its accountability to stakeholders. From the above statement, a forensic accountant with his expert knowledge in crime will help to improve corporate reporting system designed by management which will expose and prevent poor governance, flawed internal control and fraudulent financial statement.

### **Forensic Accounting Skills and Techniques**

Based on the characteristics of fraudsters, forensic accountants need special skills. Recently, the Federal Bureau of Investigation of United States of America estimated that more than three hundred billion dollars (\$300) is loss annually to fraud (Federal Bureau of Investigation, 2006) and many of these crimes are difficult to identify due to the concealment of the perpetrators' activities. Consequently, American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA) suggested that more forensic accounting techniques and procedures should be incorporated in the detection of financial reporting since auditors and forensic accountants have different training, skills and mindsets (American Institute Certified Public Accountants, 2004; International Option Market Association, 2004). Therefore, to handle the issue of economic and financial crimes (EFCs), forensic accountants must possess unique skills. From these explanations of forensic accounting techniques and skills, it logically follows that; forensic accountants possess special and specific skills.

Further, Ramaswamy (2005) posits that forensic accountants have distinct and positioned themselves and can uncover financial deceptions. That is, they possess the prominent skills and competencies which can aid the uncovering of deceit. In that, knowledge of psychology and law, creative thinking, and strong communication skills can be of great help to forensic accounts. These skills will help them in understanding the reasons behind the behaviors of perpetrators, the legal and ethical issues, and communicate facts and evidence to people who have less or no knowledge of accounting.

Analytical and good writing skills are also very critical in discovering concealed information (Crumbley, Heitger & Smith, 2009; Messmer, 2004).

McMullen and Sanchez (n. d.) investigated the skills or traits and the rationale behind the skills of forensic accountants. They indicated that, since accounting is considered as the "language of business,"

fundamental accounting skills cannot be omitted. They further indicated that the level of education does have a major role in equipping forensic accountants for their job.

Crumbley, Smith, and Apostolou (2007) added that forensic accountants need to document their work hence need writing communication skills to enable them to give a well-written report to help impress the jury in litigation. Sanchez and Trewin (2004) added that forensic accountants might serve as expert witnesses in giving testimonies for litigation support by communicating complicated facts and evidence for judges to comprehend.

Hence verbal communication skills are crucial to the success of forensic accountants. Prior auditing experience with law enforcing institution and personal skills are added advantage or needed skills (Wells, 2003).

In this technological world, computer forensic and data mining knowledge are also vital to uncovering all technological frauds. The work of forensic accountant goes beyond uncovering of the truth. It also will help in the prosecution of perpetrators, knowledge of criminal justice or law enforcement is very vital. All these discussions affirmed Kahan (2006) who indicated that there are continuous validations that the prevention of fraud and uncovering of deceptive accounting practices are in demand. Hence, there is increasing demand for forensic accountants.

**Financial crime:** Wikimedia dictionary describes financial crimes as crimes against property, involving the unlawful conversion of property belonging to another to one's own. Williams (2005) incorporates corruptions to his description of financial crimes.

EFCC's (2004) describe it as "violent, criminal and illicit activities committed with the objective of earning wealth illegal in a manner that violates existing legislation and these include any form of fraud, narcotic drug, trafficking, money laundering, embezzlement, bribery, looting and any form of corrupt malpractices and child labor, illegal oil bunkering and illegal mining, tax evasion, foreign exchange malpractice including counterfeiting, currency, theft of intellectual property and piracy, open market abuse, dumping of toxic waste and prohibited goods, damage to the environment, etc.

## **2.2 Theoretical framework**

### **Fraud diamond theory**

Fraud diamond theory was presented by Wolfe and Hermanson in the CPA Journal (December 2004) to improve on fraud triangle.

#### ***Pressure***

Perceived pressure or incentive relates to the motivation that leads to unethical behaviors. Every fraud perpetrator faces some type of pressure to commit unethical behavior. Albrecht et al. (2006) pointed out that, the word perceived is important because pressure does not have to be real; if the perpetrators believed that they are pressurized, this belief can lead to fraud.

Lister (2007:63) defined the pressure/motive to commit fraud as "the source of heat for the fire" but he believed the presence of these pressures in someone's life does not mean he or she will commit fraud.

Pressure is the incentive that could motivate an individual to be involved in fraud. The pressure could result from personal problems, such as financial pressures or addiction pressures, or from the work environment. Management or employees may find themselves under pressure to commit fraud. For example, remuneration or advancement is significantly affected by individual, divisional, or company performance, individuals may have an incentive to manipulate results or mount pressure on others to do so. Pressure may also come from the unrealistic expectations of investors, banks, or other sources of finance (Gupta, 2015).

#### ***Opportunity***

Pressure creates the motive for the crime to be committed, but the employee must also perceive that he has an opportunity to commit the crime without being caught or seen. This Perceived opportunity constitutes the second element. In Cressy's view, there are two components of the perceived opportunity to commit a trust violation; general information and technical skill. General information is simply the knowledge that the employee's position of trust could be violated. Technical skills refer to the abilities

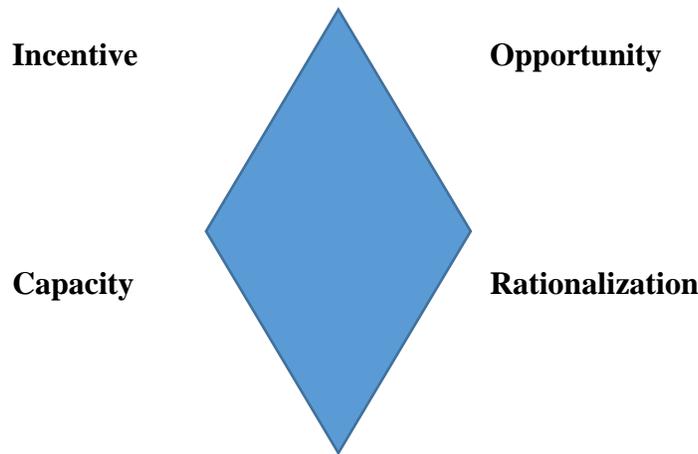
needed to commit the violation. These are usually the same abilities that the employees need to have in order to obtain and keep his position in the first place.

**Rationalization**

The third and final factor in the fraud triangle is the rationalization. Cressey pointed out that rationalization is not an *ex post facto* means of justifying a theft that has already occurred. Significantly, rationalization is a necessary component of the crime before it takes place; in fact, it is the part of the motivation for the crime. Because embezzler does not view himself as criminals, he must justify his misdeeds before he ever commits them. The rationalization is necessary so that the perpetrator can make his illegal behavior intelligible to himself and maintain his concept of himself as a trusted person.

**Capacity**

This is the situation of having the necessary traits or skills and abilities for the person to commit fraud. It is where the fraudster recognized the particular fraud opportunity and ability to turn it into reality. Position, intelligence, ego, coercion, deceit and stress, are the supporting elements of capability (Wolfe and Hermanson, 2004). Albrecht et al. (1995) believe that only the person who has an extremely high capacity will be able to understand the existing internal control, to identify its weaknesses and to use them in planning the implementation of fraud.



Source: Wolfe and Hermanson (2004)

**2.3 Review of empirical literature**

Prof. Okoye, Emmanuel & Ndah, Eze Nwoka (2019), Forensic accounting and fraud prevention in manufacturing companies in Nigeria. Conclude that fraud investigation practices are very important for the prevention of fraud in manufacturing companies.

Edori Daniel Simeon (2018), Fighting Economic and Financial Crimes in Nigeria. Using Forensic Accounting: The Moderating Effect of Technology. Concluded that forensic accounting as afield has all it takes to fight economic and financial crimes in Nigeria and that technology moderates the relationship, though negative, between forensic accounting and economic and financial crimes hence the need for technological advancement in forensic accounting in order to fight against economic and financial crimes.

Oseni, Abubakar Idris (2017) Forensic Accounting and Financial Fraud in Nigeria: Problems and Prospects. The study therefore recommends that professional accounting bodies should constantly conduct forensic accounting training for accountants and Nigerians should embrace integrity, objectivity, fairness and accountability in their daily activities.

Akomolafe, Johnson Adewale, Eluyela, Damilola Felix, Ilogho, Simon Osiregbemhe, Egharevba, Jedidah Wisdom & Aina, Olawale (2017), the study examined financial Crime in Nigeria Public Sector: a Study of Lagos State Ministries. The study concluded that, Contract fraud does not significantly affect the performance in public sector this is as a result of implementation of IPSAS in Lagos state by January.

Evans O. N. D. Ocansey (2017), Forensic Accounting and the combating of economic and financial crimes in Ghana. Recommended, all institutions (anti-corruption agencies and companies) should establish forensic accounting unit to help strengthen internal controls and ensure thorough investigation in order to prevent, deter and detect financial and economic crimes.

Efe Efosa Ehioghiren, (2016), Forensic Accounting and fraud management: evidence from Nigeria. The research work examines the value relevance of IFRS financial statement in quoted companies in Nigeria. Concluded that IFRS has not improved value relevance in the country

Amake Chinwe Claire (2016) investigated forensic accounting and fraud detection In Nigerian Public Sector. The population of four (4) ministries out of the entire ministries in Nigeria and a sample size of about one hundred (100) respondents. Based on finding, it was concluded that forensic accounting combines accounting, auditing and investigating skills in detecting, preventing and provide valid evidence used against prosecutors in Nigerian's court.

Dr. Joseph, F. Adebisi, (2016) looked at the Impact of Forensic Accounting in Fraud Detection and Prevention: Evidence from Nigerian Public Sector. The study is a survey research carried out using primary data collected through the use of questionnaire. The sample size was drawn from a population of 1250 professional accountants in Nigerian public sector. It concluded that the use of forensic accounting knowledge is vital in fighting against financial irregularities both in the public and private sectors of Nigeria. The awareness also has been on the increase among the professional accountants in Nigeria. Therefore forensic accounting is a strong tool for fraud detection and prevention in Nigeria.

Olukowade Eliezer & Balogun Emmanuel (2013). Relevance of forensic accounting in the detection and prevention of fraud in Nigeria. Concluded that government to ameliorate the cost of hiring the services of forensic accountants and to treat culprits equally without any favoritism

A.O. Akinola (2013), it examined The Roles of the Accountant and Auditor in Stewardship and Corporate Governance in Nigeria. The study established the linkage that ought to exist between Accountants, Internal Auditors and of course, the External Auditors if good corporate governance is to be effectively instituted in the corporate world in Nigeria.

Modugu and Anyaduba (2013) examined if there is significant agreement amongst stakeholders on the effectiveness of forensic accounting in financial fraud control. Recommended that government stimulate interest in forensic accounting for monitoring and investigation of suspected corruption cases.

Kennedy Prince Modugu (2013), conducted a study on Forensic Accounting and Financial Fraud in Nigeria. The survey design was used in the study with a sample size of 143 consisting of accountants, management staffs, practicing auditors and shareholders. The study recommended that the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Nigeria, Association of National Accountants of Nigeria and the National Universities Commission should encourage formalization and specialization in the field forensic accounting.

Efiong, (2012), investigated the awareness of Forensic accounting among the Nigerian undergraduates. The study found that there is a very low level of awareness of forensic accounting among undergraduate students. And recommend increased awareness can be achieved via adoption of forensic accounting into the universities accounting curriculum to enhance students' skills and competencies.

Okolo (2007), financial crime has become really pervasive and the likelihood of corporate fraud occurring has also become more severe.

## **RESEARCH METHODOLOGY**

### **Research Design**

This study used survey research design to examine the relevance of professional accountant on crime control.

The study is a survey research carried out using primary data collected through the use of questionnaire using judgmental sampling technique. The sample size was drawn from a population of 122 professional accountants and account officers in financial institution in Awka, Anambra State.

The companies involved are:

- 1) First Bank Nigerian PLC

- 2) First City monument bank
- 3) Access bank
- 4) Guarantee Trust Bank
- 5) Heritage Bank
- 6) Key stone Bank

**Model specification:**

In this study the professional accountant (FACT) predictor variable operationalized as forensic accountant, while crime control variable are internal control (INCOL), Physical security control (PSCOL) and fraud policy (FPOL).

The functional form, the model is:

$$INCOL = f(FACT) \dots\dots\dots(i)$$

$$FPOL = f(FACT) \dots\dots\dots(ii)$$

$$PSCOL = f(FACT) \dots\dots\dots(iii)$$

The statistical form:

$$INCOL = f\{\alpha_0 + \beta_1 FACT + \mu \dots\dots\dots(iv)$$

$$FPOL = f\{\alpha_0 + \beta_1 FACT + \mu \dots\dots\dots(v)$$

$$PSCOL = f\{\alpha_0 + \beta_1 FACT + \mu \dots\dots\dots(vi)$$

**Where:**

- INCOL = Internal control
- FPOL = Fraud policy
- PSCOL = physical security control
- FACT = Forensic accountant
- $\alpha$  = constant
- $\beta$  = regression coefficient
- $\mu$  = stochastic variables

**Measurement of variables**

There are two major variables by the researcher in this study: professional accountant and crime control. Professional accountant is the predictor variable operational, with variable forensic accountant while crime control will be operationalized internal control physical security control and fraud policy.

**DATA PRESENTATION, ANALYSIS AND DISCUSSION OF FINDINGS**

**Regression**

**Correlations**

		does fraud policy discourage employees from engaging in fraud activity	forensic accountants assist in search of hidden assets	does internal control reduce the rate of fraud in organization
does fraud policy discourage employees from engaging in fraud activity	Pearson Correlation	1	.860**	.904**
	Sig. (2-tailed)		.000	.000
	N	122	122	122
forensic accountants assist in search of hidden assets	Pearson Correlation	.860**	1	.889**
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.000		.000
	N	122	122	122
does internal control reduces the rate of fraud in organization	Pearson Correlation	.904**	.889**	1
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.000	.000	
	N	122	122	122
personnel security control helps to minimize miss appropriation of assets	Pearson Correlation	.907**	.911**	.950**
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.000	.000	.000
	N	122	122	122

**Correlations**

		personnel security control helps to minimize miss appropriation of assets
does fraud policy discourage employees from engaging in fraud activity	Pearson Correlation	.907
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.000
	N	122
forensic accountants assist in search of hidden assets	Pearson Correlation	.911**
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.000
	N	122
does internal control reduces the rate of fraud in organization	Pearson Correlation	.950**
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.000
	N	122
personnel security control helps to minimize miss appropriation of assets	Pearson Correlation	1**
	Sig. (2-tailed)	
	N	122

**Findings**

From the result above, we have the following result,

- 1) There is strong effect between forensic accountant and internal control. The result imply, the more forensic accountant intervene in organization the more internal control will be strengthened.
- 2) There is a positive effect between forensic accountant and physical security control. The result implies that forensic accountant uses physical security control services in crime control. Forensic accountant will enhance physical security control.

**CONCLUSION/RECOMMENDATION**

- 1) There should be constant invitation of forensic accountant. This may in one way or the other put fear in employees towards committing crime.
- 2) There should be constant education of staff about fraud policy and the implication of break them.
- 3) Government should make forensic accounting more relevant by introducing the subject at the undergraduate level both private and public universities.

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