

# 5 Fraud

*“It is an opportunistic infection that bursts forth when greed meets the possibility of deception.”*

(Silverstone et al., 2012, p. 12)

## Introduction

**F**raud, it may be argued is the most common form of corruption in events. It is as easy as telling a lie. If the event is a success, so many people believe, all is forgiven. The lies are forgotten and we move on to the next event. But luck is not the same as forgiveness. Eventually the Geryon will be obvious.

*Fraud: “Any illegal act characterized by deceit, concealment, or violation of trust. These acts are not dependent upon the threat of violence or physical force. Frauds are perpetrated by parties and organizations to obtain money, property, or services; to avoid payment or loss of services; or to secure personal or business advantage.”*

(Office of the City Auditor, 2021)

According to Transparency International’s The Anti-Corruption Plain Language Guide, fraud:

*“is to cheat. The act of intentionally deceiving someone in order to gain an unfair or illegal advantage (financial, political or otherwise). Countries consider such offences to be criminal or a violation of civil law.”*

(Transparency International, 2009).

Many of the primary documents used to develop this manual have the term “corruption and fraud”. This is because the current definition of corruption has the term “entrusted power” which, to