

Civil Division FOCUS Initiative White Paper Questionnaire

For those interested in submitting a proposal to the Civil Division's FOCUS Initiative, we request that you submit a paper (of no more than 10 pages total) that addresses each of the following topics and questions:

1. What type of fraud does your analysis identify and which federal programs, items or services are the subject of your analysis? Is there a specific geographical scope or geographical limitation of your analysis?
2. Provide a brief overview and/or explanation of your analysis. Please include:
 - a. What type(s) of data do you analyze?
 - b. Where did you obtain the data? (please be specific and include database/dataset names, as applicable. E.g., <https://openpaymentsdata.cms.gov> not "HHS" or "CMS")
 - c. What assumptions are incorporated into your analyses or model?
 - d. In designing and developing your analysis, did you consult with any subject matter experts, clinicians or others familiar with the federal program? If so, who and what was their role?
 - e. What analysis did you conduct to test the accuracy of your model?
 - f. Do you have any other external data or information that supports the accuracy of your analysis?
3. Provide a summary of your research of the relevant statutes, regulations, or contracts that govern the potential fraud you have identified and how your data analysis indicates violations of those requirements.
4. Describe whether there are any potentially reasonable or legitimate explanations for the data signals you have identified, and any analysis that addresses those alternative explanations.
5. Identify and describe your single best example of potential fraud identified by your analysis. Please explain why your data signal and/or other evidence indicates fraud as opposed to an administrative overpayment. Please explain the estimated single damages to the federal government from the course of conduct.
6. Provide a list of any qui tam cases you have previously filed, including case name (with a list of all defendants) and district.
7. Provide brief background information on yourself or your organization, including any relevant work experience and credentials, and any financial relationship with the industry that is the focus of your analysis. You may attach CV(s) to your white paper.

Once complete, please submit your response to FOCUS.dataminers@usdoj.gov. If we conclude that your data analysis reflects a data signal with a reasonably strong correlation to potential fraud that is not already known to the government, we will follow up with you to schedule a meeting to discuss in greater detail your work and potential qui tam filings.