

CEP Magazine – July 2023



Gerry Zack (gerry.zack@corporatecompliance.org, twitter.com/gerry_zack, linkedin.com/in/gerryzack) is CEO of SCCE & HCCA in Eden Prairie, Minnesota, USA. Please feel free to contact Gerry anytime to share your thoughts: +1 612.357.1544 (cell), +1 952.567.6215 (direct).

Repetition and intent

By Gerry Zack, CCEP, CFE, CIA

I've written about proving intent before, but a recent session (and subsequent conversation) at a conference reminded me of its importance, as well as a common misconception. Not all laws require intent be proven; some are strict liability laws. But in many criminal and civil cases, the outcome rests upon whether the subject intended to do wrong.

The discussions I referred to above involved what I would call a fixation on repetition as a sign of intent. Prosecutors often use the expression "pattern of wrongdoing" to describe criminal behavior. But equating repetition with a pattern of wrongdoing would be a mistake.

This document is only available to members. [Please log in or become a member.](#)

[Become a Member Login](#)