Overview of Boot Camp Assignments

U.S. banks maintain investigation teams that continuously review customer information and financial transactions. Any indications of illegal activity are flagged and investigated in greater detail. If this investigation is unable to find a legitimate purpose or explanation for the activity in question, the team files a Suspicious Activity Report (SAR) with information on the customer, their accounts, and the activity in question. These SARs are used by government agencies to coordinate criminal investigations and, in aggregate, to identify trends in illegal activity. The banks’ Anti-Money Laundering (AML) Compliance departments also use these SARs to identify and address high-risk customers.

The file “Boot Camp Data.xlsx” contains anonymized, high-level information on over 5,000 SARs. This information includes the date the SAR was filed, the dollar amounts involved in the transactions, the dates during which the transactions took place, and the reasons for filing the SAR. Your client, the AML Compliance department at a small, regional bank, has asked CAST to review the SAR data and identify the SAR groups that should be given the highest priority.

The process of creating a deliverable for this client has been divided into four assignments. An assignment will be given at the beginning of each day, at which time you can discuss the requirements with the Boot Camp Coordinator and ask any questions you may have. The skills required for each assignment will be introduced in that day’s Boot Camp training modules. The four assignments are:

* Assignment 1 – Data Analysis
* Assignment 2 – Data Visualization
* Assignment 3 – Outlining the Story
* Assignment 4 – Building a Presentation