EXPERTISE FACTSHEET

Subject Matter Experts

Providing assessments and services across third-party risk manangement

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In-Depth Industry
Expertise

The team at Venminder has years of experience and expertise across a broad range of industries, including the most regulated - the financial services industry. These experts provide both assessment and consulting to Venminder customers.

The team holds a range of certifications and qualifications including: CTPRP, CISSP, Paralegal, CPA, CRISC, GCIH, ABCP, CCNA, and more. These certifications and our experience reflect our knowledge and specialty in third-party risk management. The team continually keeps current on industry trends and drives best practices.

The team is supported by many other additional third-party risk employees who have experience onboarding, working directly with vendors, to collecting documents, managing questionnaire and risk assessment processes, and more.

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Dana Bowers
Founder

Dana Bowers is Founder, Board Member, and Chief Solutions Architect at Venminder where she assists with the firm's long-term strategy and innovative product development. Dana has been an entrepreneur and leader in the financial industry for more than 30 years.

As the Founder of Venminder, Dana designed an entire new approach to vendor management by creating a state of the art software and integrated services solution that allows organizations to answer the ever growing challenges and regulatory demand for vendor management compliance. Dana served as Venminder's CEO for five years until 2018. Under her leadership, Venminder grew into the third-party risk management leader it is today with almost 1,000 customers ranging in size from small to Fortune 100 organizations.

Prior to Venminder, Dana founded and led the team as CEO at iPay Technologies. Under Dana's leadership, iPay grew from a start-up in 2001 to the one of largest, independent bill pay providers in the United States. When the company was sold to Jack Henry and Associates in 2010, iPay had a 40% market share, millions of subscribers and moved billions of dollars annually.

This hands on operating experience in a high-profile/high-risk "vendor" business gave Dana a unique perspective into the challenges organizations face on a daily basis. Whether it's negotiating a financial technology contract, sitting across from examiners to answer tough questions regarding safety and soundness or protecting confidential customer data, she has sat in her customer's chair. Following the sale of iPay to Jack Henry, Dana recognized the opportunity to use her experience and assist financial institutions and other organizations with managing their critical vendor relationships. The team at Venminder was formed with the vision and goal to create a best in class outsource vendor management solution, Venminder.

Throughout Dana's career, her proven leadership and talent has been recognized by many. She was awarded the Ernst and Young Entrepreneur of the Year 2009 award for the South Central Ohio/Kentucky region in the Technology category.

Dana is on the board of advisors for the University of Louisville College of Business and serves as a board member for Associates in Pediatric Therapy, a Kentucky-based company. In 2019, CSI elected Dana as it's newest board member. Dana earned her bachelor's degree in Business Management from Embry Riddle University.

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Ramin Zacharia, CPA

Chief Financial Officer

Ramin Zacharia leads and oversees the Finance department, while also working across the organization to identify future strategic initiatives and opportunities to drive internal and external efficiencies, and areas of growth. Ramin enjoys developing novel solutions for complex and ever-evolving business needs.

Prior to Venminder, Ramin founded and managed RTD Insights, working alongside growth businesses, private equity funds, venture capital firms, and entrepreneurs to provide solutions for the offices of the CFO and COO. Ramin has worked with companies throughout the maturity lifecycle, serving as a value-added team member across finance, operations, and go-to-market functions.

Ramin began his career in investment banking, most recently with William Blair & Company in Chicago, focusing on the technology and software vertical end markets. During his time at William Blair, he completed 16 M&A, public capital and private capital advisory engagements. Ramin is a Certified Public Accountant in Illinois, and earned his Finance and Accounting degrees with honors from the Gies College of Business at the University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign.

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Michael Campbell, CPA

Chief Accounting Officer

Mike Campbell is responsible for leading Venminder's financial reporting, audits, budgeting, and day-to-day accounting. Mike has more than 25 years of accounting, finance and business strategy experience.

Prior to joining Venminder, Mike led the finance and accounting, HR, and IT at a fast-growth forensic investigation company growing from 65 to 250 employees.

Mike started his career with Ernst & Young auditing healthcare organizations and continued his public accounting career with regional CPA firm as both Audit Manager and IT Consultant.

From 2017 to 2020, Mike served on the Board of Directors and Executive Committee of the Kentucky Society of CPAs. Mike is a Certified Public Accountant and Chartered Global Management Accountant.

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Aaron Kirkpatrick, CISSP, CRISC, CIPM, GCIH, GCCC

Chief Information Security Officer

As Venminder's Chief Information Security Officer (CISO), Aaron manages the information security team and information security initiatives within the organization. He has been an integral part of developing many of the product offerings Venminder provides which customers use to simplify their risk management efforts. In his role, Aaron continues to enhance Venminder's own information security and product offerings as the risk environment evolves.

Aaron is active within the risk management and information security space and participates in many industry and regulatory organizations, thus ensuring he is always in tune with the space as it grows and changes. He has held roles that have been both management and control based, and has created and successfully lead security, risk, and audit programs. Aaron is also actively involved in Venminder's sales process and enjoys educating the Venminder team and prospective customers about our products. Aaron has a love for teaching and taught network security at a community college over three class years, where he remains active with the program, and hopes to teach in the future.

Aaron is a Certified Information Systems Security Professional (CISSP) who has a wide range of organizational, technical, and compliance knowledge, with over a decade of experience applying those skills across multiple industries for organizations and their customers. Aaron's formal education includes an AAS in Network Administration and Engineering as well as a BS in Management Information Systems.

In addition to the CISSP, Aaron's relevant professional certifications include: ISACA's Certified in Risk and Information Systems Control (CRISC), Certified Information Privacy Manager (CIPM), GIAC Certified Incident Handler (GCIH), and GIAC Critical Controls Certification (GCCC). Aaron is a member of IAPP, ISACA, and (ISC)².

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Hilary Jewhurst, CTPRP
Head of Third-Party Risk Education & Advocacy

Hilary is responsible for the advancement and promotion of third-party risk management best practices and solutions through thought leadership, subject matter expertise, and support for Venminder's clients, Marketing, Sales, and Third-Party Risk divisions. Hilary has served as a senior leader for over 20 years, working in operations management and risk management roles, with an emphasis on third-party risk.

Before joining Venminder, Hilary successfully built, improved, and managed enterprise-wide third-party risk management frameworks and programs for leading consumer banks and fintech companies. She has a track record of carefully identifying and analyzing vendor risk management issues while working with key stakeholders to drive resolution. She is skilled in regulatory compliance as well as policy and procedure development, improvement, and implementation. Her broader experience incorporates enterprise risk management, sourcing and procurement, crisis management, business continuity, and disaster recovery.

Hilary is passionate about third-party risk management training and education. She has designed and developed training materials, reference guides, desk-top procedures, job aids, checklists, and templates for a full spectrum of learning environments and learners. She has personally trained hundreds of third-party risk managers, vendor relationship managers, and vendors.

Hilary is a Certified Third-Party Risk Professional (CTPRP) through Shared Assessments and is a Six Sigma Black Belt.

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Lisa-Mae Hill, CTPRP

Director, Information Security Operations

Lisa-Mae is an experienced cybersecurity professional with experience in both the private and public sectors. She has held the role of Subject Matter Expert and Information System Security Officer for a government based contractor and has extensive experience in Certification & Accreditation, CIS Critical Control Implementation and Auditing, Security Assessments, and Cybersecurity/Information Security Policy. Lisa-Mae has been with Venminder for over 5 years and has had an integral role in growing and developing our Information Security Specialist team as well as the processes they use to assist both our internal stakeholders and our customers.

She has a Bachelor's degree in Information Technology Management from State University of New York Delhi paired with many hours of additional cybersecurity and industry related training. She is also a Certified Third-Party Risk Professional (CTPRP).

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Travis Helton, SSCP, CISSP
Senior Information Security Specialist

Travis earned a Bachelor's degree in Information Technology with an emphasis in Cybersecurity from the University of the Cumberlands, achieving the Dean's list each semester. Technical experience was earned through information technology and field service responsibilities with an engineering organization. He is currently pursuing industry certifications in risk and security. So far, Travis has obtained a Systems Security Certified Practitioner (SSCP) certification.

Donnie "Hershey" Long, ABCP, CTPRP
Senior Information Security Specialist

Donnie's past experience as a Security Operations Center Analyst and Lead Information Technology Specialist has given him knowledge in triage, incident response, cyber threat intelligence, and experience with enterprise tabletop exercises. He also has experience in the financial sector, being a former mortgage loan originator.

He earned two post-graduate degrees from the University of Arizona: Master of Science in Management Information Systems and a Master of Science in Cybersecurity. He has obtained the Security+ certification, is a member of (ISC)² and is pursuing the CISSP certification.

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Erica Lane, CISM, SEC+

Sr. Information Security Specialist I

Erica earned her Bachelor's degree in Communications and Design with an emphasis on journalism from Loyola University New Orleans. She began her career in Information Technology nine years before moving over to the security side nearly three years ago. She has experience in the healthcare and financial industries. She earned her Security+ certification and has recently passed the CISM exam.

Mike Meeks

Information Security Specialist I

Mical is a Detroit native who holds a bachelor's degree in Information Assurance with a concentration in Network Security from Eastern Michigan University (EMU). He has over 6 years of experience in the Healthcare Industry as an Information Security professional.

He began working on the Training and Awareness team where he educated the workforce on potential cybersecurity threats and vulnerabilities. He then transitioned into Risk Management where he was able to expand his skillset by managing risks on behalf of the organization. While working on the Risk Management team, he then shifted his focus to external risk management where he assessed the security posture of vendors that handled and accessed confidential data. He is currently pursuing certifications within the Security field.

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Noel Showers
Information Security Specialist II

Noel achieved the designation of Cisco Certified Network Associate CCNA and worked as a Senior Field Technician for a multinational corporation. He brings a wide variety of IT skills and knowledge to his position at Venminder and is pursuing industry security certifications in security and risk management. He earned an Associate's degree in Network Administration and Engineering from Hawkeye College.

Chris Grant
Information Security Specialist II

Chris has several years of security compliance experience and is a member of the Information Security team. He has a Bachelor's degree in Management Information Systems. He started his career as a Help Desk Analyst, then transitioned to Database Administration, and now he is in Information Security. He is currently pursuing industry certifications in security.

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Lucas Gauna
Information Security Specialist I

Lucas is an experienced IT professional with a background in technical systems, project management, security, and compliance. His journey in the world of technology began as a Help Desk Analyst, where he quickly developed an interest in governance, risk, and compliance. Lucas is well-versed in information security standards and frameworks like NIST, ISO 27001, SOC 2, and HITRUST.

His enthusiasm for staying ahead of the curve in the dynamic field of cybersecurity has been a driving force throughout his professional trajectory. Lucas has earned several IT certifications including CompTIA Network+, Security+, and CySA+. He also completed a cybersecurity program at the University of South Florida.

Jeff Theis
Information Security Specialist I

Jeff is an Experienced IT professional who has worked in numerous technical positions ranging from Support Desk services to Network and Information Security Systems Administration. He's had roles facilitating internal and external Information Security audit programs, ISO27001:2013 certification efforts, and ISMS implementation and oversight. Adding to his technical education from schooling in Microcomputer Support and Network Administration, he is currently working towards his CISA (ISACA) certification.

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Tyler Helton

Junior Information Security Specialist I

Tyler has recently obtained his ISC2 Certified in Cybersecurity Certification and is studying for the CompTIA Security + certification. He has vast experience across many roles in the workforce and has knowledge based around the PII, PHI and PCI standards. Tyler has recently transitioned into the Information Security Sector.

Heather Garnett

Senior Paralegal

Heather Garnett is an on-site Paralegal with Venminder.

Prior to joining Venminder, Heather spent two and half years working in the Middle East as a Legal Secretary for Edinburgh International and as Senior Contract Compliance Manager for a Alastora Private Security Company. During this time she successfully negotiated multi-million dollar contracts with many international companies within the oil and gas industry.

Before traveling overseas, Heather worked for private law firms gaining 11 years legal and contractual experience. She received her Paralegal Certification from Murray State University.

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Kara Williams
Senior Paralegal

Kara is an on-site Paralegal with Venminder.

She provides our customers with contract compliance reviews, as well as processing and managing vendor contracts. Kara comes to Venminder with multiple years' experience in the legal field. While working at a private law firm, she spent her time working directly with banks and other financial institutions.

Kara earned her Bachelor's degree in Political Science, as well as an Associate degree in Paralegal Studies from the University of Louisville.

Danielle Lafollette
Paralegal

Danielle is an on-site Paralegal with Venminder.

She provides our customers with contract compliance reviews, as well as processing and managing vendor contracts. Prior to joining Venminder, Danielle spent the last 7 years working in civil litigation.

She is a Certified Kentucky Paralegal (CKP) and has earned an Associate degree in Paralegal Studies from Western Kentucky University. She is also a member of the Kentucky Paralegal Association.

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Manage Vendors. Mitigate Risk. **Reduce Workload.**

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About Venminder

Venminder is an industry recognized leader of third-party risk management solutions. Dedicated to third-party risk, the company is the go-to partner for software, vendor risk assessments on vendor controls, certified subject-matter expertise and education.

Venminder's platform provides a centralized location to execute a third-party risk management program. It enables users to store documentation, onboard a vendor, track contracts, manage SLAs, send and manage questionnaires, manage due diligence and oversight, complete risk assessments, create workflows, run reporting, and more. Assessments performed by Venminder's qualified experts are readily available in an online library. The assessments identify possible risks and understand areas of strength on their vendors' information security and privacy standards, SOC reports, financial viability, business continuity/disaster recovery preparedness, contractual standards, regulatory compliance, and more.