

Joseph M. Elias

Risk, Compliance & Data Leader

Former VP, Compliance · Former AML/BSA & Fair Lending Officer · Enterprise Risk · TPRM · GRC · Data & AI Governance

Joseph M. Elias is a senior risk, compliance, and data leader with more than 14 years of experience across mortgage lending, mortgage servicing, fintech, and regulated financial-services operations. He helps organizations turn regulatory obligations into measurable, auditable operating capabilities by integrating regulatory expertise, enterprise risk management, governance, data, automation, and responsible AI.

Joseph has served as a designated AML/BSA Officer and Fair Lending Officer and has led programs spanning AML/BSA and OFAC controls, fair lending, UDAAP, consumer complaints, QWR/NOE workflows, issues management, compliance testing and monitoring, regulatory reporting, mortgage licensing, and federal/state examination response. He has served as a primary liaison for mortgage clients in matters involving the Federal Reserve, OCC, and FDIC, coordinating regulatory engagement, evidence production, examination readiness, and remediation.

His senior leadership experience includes leading a 22-person Risk & Compliance organization, including eight managers, across Risk Governance, Regulatory Reporting, Mortgage Licensing, Third-Party Risk Management/Vendor Management, and Corporate Policy. He has reported to C-suite and Board audiences, chaired an Operations Risk & Technology Committee, and led cybersecurity-risk and business continuity/disaster recovery initiatives. He has also supported HECM/reverse-mortgage servicing compliance, subservicer oversight, and default/loss-mitigation compliance.

Joseph brings a builder's approach to risk and compliance. He has developed Enterprise Risk Management frameworks, GRC ecosystems, data platforms, quantitative risk models, KPI/KRI reporting, regulatory-reporting databases, automated workflows, and AI/data-governance operating models. His earlier work at Vericrest Financial/Caliber Home Loans included executive servicing portfolio reporting and forecasts covering foreclosure, loss mitigation, bankruptcy, and projected collections call volume to support staffing, capacity planning, and portfolio management. His work connects operational data, control design, and regulatory expectations with systems that make oversight scalable, timely, and defensible.

Selected outcomes

- Improved internal-audit outcomes by 53% and accelerated regulatory-reporting cycles by more than 40%.

- Reduced compliance operating costs by approximately 68% through automation of manual review and reporting work.
- Reduced manual OFAC-review time by 97% through process automation and control redesign.
- Built GRC and enterprise-data ecosystems delivering real-time KPI/KRI visibility and reducing operational overhead by 47%.
- Reduced data inconsistencies by 24% and increased data-retrieval speed by 21% through data-platform and governance improvements.
- Increased compliance-testing coverage by 18% through risk-based testing and statistical sampling.
- Conducted TPRM/vendor-management assessments that identified material security gaps and contributed to a 25% reduction in operational risk.

Core areas of focus

Enterprise Risk Management (ERM) / COSO · Governance, Risk & Compliance (GRC) · AML/BSA · OFAC · Fair Lending · UDAAP · Third-Party Risk Management (TPRM) and Vendor Management · Regulatory Reporting · HMDA · NMLS · MCR · Mortgage Licensing · Federal & State Regulatory Engagement · Examination Management · Consumer Complaint Governance · QWR/NOE · Mortgage Servicing Analytics & Compliance · Data Governance · AI Governance · Responsible AI · Quantitative Risk Analytics · Cybersecurity Risk · Business Continuity & Disaster Recovery

Website: <https://josephelias.com/>

LinkedIn: [linkedin.com/in/joseph-elias-risk](https://www.linkedin.com/in/joseph-elias-risk)