

# Protect Your Firm and Its Most Vulnerable Investors with Bates Investor Risk Assessment

Bates Investor Risk Assessment (BIRA) is a unique new program now available for broker-dealers and registered investment advisors. It represents a breakthrough in helping firms protect their most vulnerable clients, while meeting regulatory expectations.

BIRA assists in safeguarding seniors, retirees, minors, and those with diminished capacity. It enables firms to proactively identify high-risk accounts, so they can take preventive measures in a timely manner.

## A breakthrough answer

Bates Group is the national leader in providing vulnerable and senior investor expertise, expert testimony, and analytical techniques to help financial services firms manage risk, minimize regulatory scrutiny, and prevent fraud and reputational harm.

Protecting vulnerable investors is a priority for many firms and regulators. Our exclusive new risk assessment program employs a systematic analytical approach created to address growing risks for these individuals.

BIRA centers around a rigorous evaluation phase, wherein Bates experts use specialized analytics to identify key risk indicators, some of which may lie buried in firm data. It uses these signals to highlight individual at-risk investors, or high-risk areas, for review. In a subsequent implementation phase, our team can then provide recommendations to help keep firms and their clients from potential exposure and harm.



**BIRA helps protect vulnerable investors from potential bad actors, which could include:**

- Criminals
- Family or friends
- Advisors
- Others

**BIRA helps protect firms from:**

- Inefficient use of resources
- Legal exposure
- Reputational harm
- Regulatory penalties
- Financial loss



## A two-phase solution

### BIRA evaluation phase

In the evaluation phase, Bates Compliance Solutions and Financial Crimes teams will evaluate the firm in a process that includes interviewing selected firm employees, thoroughly analyzing procedures and systems, and assessing data points that can be used as key risk indicators.

### BIRA implementation phase

The implementation phase comprises elements including developing customized models to integrate multiple data types; identifying higher-risk accounts and activities; and addressing issues of governance, escalation protocols, process flows, and reporting.



## About Bates

Founded in 1981, Bates Group LLC is the leading U.S. provider of consulting and testifying expertise for financial services firms and their counsel. We work with clients to achieve successful resolution of their legal matters. Leveraging our experts and analytics solutions, we provide insight into our clients' case issues, help mitigate litigation and regulatory exposure, and manage compliance risk.

In its elder care work, Bates has developed vulnerable client governance programs for firms of all sizes. Our team can design processes and procedures and make recommendations to ensure compliance with FINRA and various state regulations. Bates experts are nationally recognized on elder fraud prevention, and have presented at numerous national and regional conferences. Our experts have also testified and consulted on many claims related to senior fraud, lottery scams, romance scams, family and trusted party abuse, and issues of diminished capacity.

## Call today

Explore how a **Bates Investor Risk Assessment (BIRA)** can help protect your most vulnerable clients and your firm.



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