Artificial Intelligence (AI) Best Practices Policy

Effective Date: [Insert Date] Applies To: All Employees, Contractors, and Vendors Approved By: [Insert Approving Authority or Committee Name]

1. Purpose

This plan establishes detailed guidelines for the responsible, ethical, and secure use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) technologies within [Company Name]. It aims to mitigate risks related to data privacy, intellectual property, regulatory exposure, and ethical concerns while maximizing the operational, strategic, and innovative benefits of AI adoption.

2. Scope

This policy applies to: - All employees and contractors who interact with AI tools in any capacity. - Third-party partners or vendors whose services include the use or deployment of AI on behalf of [Company Name]. - AI systems including, but not limited to: generative AI (text, image, audio), machine learning models, natural language processing systems, predictive analytics, and decision-support systems.

3. Core Principles

- Ethics and Responsibility: All AI usage must prioritize fairness, transparency, nondiscrimination, and respect for human rights. AI must never be used to deceive, mislead, or exploit individuals.
- **Data Security:** All data processed by AI systems must follow internal classification and encryption policies. Only de-identified data should be used for non-secure environments.
- **Compliance:** AI-related activities must comply with GLBA, ALTA, FFIEC, and applicable federal/state data privacy regulations.
- **Risk Management:** Evaluate the downstream consequences of AI use—technically, reputationally, and operationally.
- **Human Review:** Al-generated content, recommendations, or decisions must be reviewed and approved by a qualified employee. This includes documents, client communications, loan decisions, marketing copy, and risk scoring.

4. Data Privacy and Security

4.1 Personal Information - **Strict Prohibition:** Employees must not enter any non-public customer information (NPI), PII, PHI, or bank account data into public AI tools. - **Permissible Tools:** Only use AI tools that meet compliance thresholds (e.g., SOC 2 Type II, ISO 27001) for handling personal or regulated data. - **Audit Trails:** Maintain records of data inputs and outputs for sensitive use cases to ensure traceability.

4.2 Proprietary Information - **Restricted Content:** Never share legal documents, underwriting methodologies, financial models, or transaction data with AI platforms lacking contractual data protections. - **Review Process:** Any AI-generated content used externally (e.g., client emails, marketing material) must undergo documented human review. - **Watermarking:** When feasible, flag AI-generated content for internal reference and compliance auditing.

5. Licensing and Accountability

5.1 Paid AI Subscriptions - Designated Licensee: All AI accounts must be registered under a corporate domain with a designated administrator. - **Usage Logs:** Maintain access and activity logs for accountability and audits. - **Tool Inventory:** IT must maintain a list of authorized AI tools and their intended business use.

5.2 Contractual Safeguards - **Data Handling Clauses:** Contracts must specify data ownership, retention, deletion protocols, and that vendor models will not be trained using company data. - **Performance Benchmarks:** Include SLAs to define acceptable AI output quality and response times.

6. Governance and Oversight

6.1 AI Governance Committee - Comprised of representatives from Legal, Compliance, IT Security, and business leaders. - Responsible for: - Evaluating new AI vendors and tools. - Approving high-risk AI use cases. - Updating the AI policy based on regulatory changes.

6.2 Employee Training - **Curriculum:** Annual training covering AI ethics, data entry rules, risk examples, incident reporting, and legal implications. - **Department-Specific Training:** Tailored content for sales, underwriting, IT, HR, and marketing.

6.3 Risk Assessment - Assess: - Risk of biased or inaccurate output. - Legal exposure in automated workflows. - Regulatory red flags in client-facing tools.

7. Ethical AI Use

- **Bias Testing:** Perform regular fairness assessments and blind validation tests on models.
- **Disclosure Statements:** When AI tools affect client decisioning, disclose that AI was used, and provide a path to human review.
- **Decision Boundaries:** Never allow AI to make final underwriting or legal conclusions without secondary human approval.

8. Incident Response and Monitoring

- **Real-Time Alerts:** Monitor AI system behaviors for anomalies, hallucinations, or unsanctioned data exposure.
- **Incident Reporting Channel:** All users must immediately report suspected Al misuse to Compliance.
- **Review Timeline:** Incident root cause analysis must occur within 2 business days.

9. Vendor Management

- **Security Vetting:** Before adoption, vendors must submit independent third-party audits (SOC 2, penetration tests, etc.).
- **Ongoing Assessment:** Re-assess vendors annually for operational, compliance, and reputational risks.
- **Termination Protocols:** Ensure prompt offboarding and data deletion upon contract termination.

10. Implementation and Review

- **Rollout Checklist:** Establish milestones for department compliance, training completions, and tool inventory.
- **Annual Review:** The policy and related procedures must be reviewed and updated annually or when laws change.
- **Feedback Loop:** All employees are encouraged to report inefficiencies or risks in current AI workflows.

11. Legal and Regulatory Considerations (Title Insurance and Banking)

11.1 Industry-Specific Compliance Requirements - **Title Insurance:** - ALTA Best Practices Framework v4.0 (or most current) - State Department of Insurance (DOI) guidelines - CFPB oversight for consumer data protection - Gramm-Leach-Bliley Act (GLBA) for safeguarding consumer information

- Banking and Financial Services:
 - o FFIEC Guidance on AI and Automated Systems (as published)
 - Federal Reserve and OCC risk management expectations
 - Bank Secrecy Act (BSA) and Anti-Money Laundering (AML) regulations
 - o FDIC and NCUA data protection requirements

11.2 Compliance Documentation and Audits - Retain records of: - Tool evaluations and vendor risk assessments. - Staff training logs. - Risk mitigation measures. - Usage audits by department.

11.3 Use Case Approval - Mandatory for any application involving: - Loan approvals or escrow workflows - Financial calculations for client accounts - Email or communications impersonation detection

11.4 Data Localization and Jurisdiction - All data processing must occur on U.S.-hosted servers unless explicitly approved by Legal and Security. - Tools involving international teams or APIs must comply with GDPR, UK DPA, or similar frameworks.

12. Acknowledgement and Sign-Off

All employees and contractors must acknowledge their understanding and compliance with this policy annually.

Employee Acknowledgement

Name:
Signature:
Date:

Manager Acknowledgement (Responsible for Department Compliance)

Manager Name:
Signature:
Department:
Date:

Document Control

Version: 1.0 Last Reviewed: [Insert Date] Next Review Date: [Insert Date] Owner: [Insert Policy Owner or Department Name]