



WESTERN ALLIANCE BANK CASE STUDY

OVERVIEW

Western Alliance Bancorporation (NYSE: WAL) is one of the country's top-performing banking companies. Its primary subsidiary, Western Alliance Bank, Member FDIC, offers a full spectrum of tailored commercial banking solutions and consumer products, all delivered with outstanding service by banking and mortgage experts who put customers first. Serving clients across the country wherever business happens, Western Alliance Bank operates individual, full-service banking and financial brands with offices in key markets nationwide.

Western Alliance CISO, Victor Vinogradov, leads a team that oversees and manages the Bank's cybersecurity program. As the Bank's Cyber Mission Statement describes, "The primary goal of the program is to maintain cybersecurity defenses whose capabilities are within the upper quartile of banks. We use industry standards from NIST for cybersecurity, FFIEC examination guidelines, COBIT and ITIL frameworks, and privacy laws to guide us in helping the Bank meet its legal and regulatory requirements. Our strategy allows us to perform a high level of due diligence by investing in information security controls on three fronts: People, Process, and Technology. Continual investment in all three areas provides the best mechanism to deflect hackers toward easier targets".

Victor selected SynerComm over five years ago and continues to utilize our services. This business relationship provides valuable input on improvements to our services to help ensure we maintain a cost-effective, flexible and progressive set of solutions for our customers.

FACING CHALLENGES TOGETHER

Victor's team needed access to cost-effective cyber-security talent with a focus on the financial industry to keep pace with the bank's growth. That type and level of talent is scarce and in high demand across the industry.

As the bank was in growth mode, it needed specialized security services, such as framework-based gap assessments.

Due to evolving regulatory requirements and a dynamic and complex environment to manage, the Bank needed a cost-effective, flexible cybersecurity service provider.

WHY SYNERCOMM?

SynerComm's historical experience serving over 75 different banking and financial institutions across the country provides the credibility and ability to understand the challenges the industry is facing.

SynerComm's Information Assurance Practice Areas Include:

- OneSSP® Risk Mitigation Solutions & Services
- Risk & Control Framework based Technical Control Validation
- Continuous Penetration Testing (CPT) powered by SynerComm's homebuilt CASM® exposure management platform.
- Application & API Security Assessments



KEYS TO SUCCESS

SynerComm provided Western Alliance Bank with targeted cybersecurity services and solutions that helped address its areas of need, including penetration testing, application assessments, risk & control framework gap assessments, and adversary simulations.

SynerComm also supported the Bank through strategic projects and helped validate its security infrastructure efficacy and risk exposure needs.

Shared successes included:

Shared Success #1

Pentesting and Adversary Simulations provided actionable guidance against the MITRE Attack Framework, helping the Bank team improve its capabilities, security posture, process, and policies.

Shared Success #2

Leveraged risk & control framework implementation scoring, provided a baseline and validated that the Bank's security program and business risks are aligned.

Shared Success #3

Over time and through multiple engagements, SynerComm's understanding of the Bank's culture enabled SynerComm to extend the Bank team's capabilities and improve its security posture across multiple environments.



Victor Vinogradov
Western Alliance Bank
CISO

“SynerComm has become one of our trusted cybersecurity advisors by providing flexible cost-effective solutions. They deliver relevant and actionable outcomes over time,” said Vinogradov of the partnership. “They have both the information assurance expertise and security control operations expertise and offer flexible solutions tailored to my teams needs and ever-changing risks.”

Lauding SynerComm's outcome-based success across the information security program and team, Vinogradov says, “SynerComm has been instrumental in fine-tuning Security Monitoring Center controls via Adversarial Simulations that continually test and refine our detective and mitigating controls over time.”

SynerComm is proud to have a long-standing and trusted partnership with Western Alliance Bank and looks forward to the continued partnership.