Managed Third-Party Risk Management for Legal

Protecting client confidentiality across your vendor ecosystem. ABA-aligned vendor oversight for law firms and legal departments.

29%	$5.08M	200+
of law firms reported a security breach in 2023	average cost of a law firm data breach	ransomware incidents targeting law firms in 2025–26

Law firms are high-value targets. They hold the most sensitive information their clients possess—M&A; strategies, litigation plans, intellectual property, and privileged communications—yet many firms lack formal programs to evaluate the vendors who access, store, and process that data. ABA Model Rules 1.6(c) and 5.3 require "reasonable efforts" to safeguard client information and supervise third-party service providers. Formal Opinions 477R and 483 further mandate due diligence of vendors and notification obligations after a breach. The MOVEit and Accellion incidents demonstrated how a single vendor vulnerability can expose client data across dozens of firms simultaneously.

ENGAGEMENT MODELS

Two Ways to Work With Us

Bring Your Own Platform

We operate your existing TPRM tool

- ✓ Full administration of your platform
- ✓ Vendor onboarding, tiering & classification
- ✓ Questionnaire distribution & follow-up
- ✓ Risk scoring & remediation tracking
- ✓ Reporting aligned to your workflows
- ✓ Platform optimization & configuration tuning

Fully Hosted Solution

We provide the platform and the program

- ✓ Turnkey TPRM platform provisioned for you
- ✓ Complete vendor inventory buildout
- ✓ Full assessment lifecycle management
- ✓ Continuous monitoring & automated alerts
- ✓ Executive dashboards & board-ready reporting
- ✓ No capital outlay—platform included in service

SERVICE SCOPE

What's Included

Vendor Inventory & Tiering

Third parties classified by client data access scope, matter sensitivity, privilege implications, and contractual obligations. Risk tiers drive assessment depth and frequency.

Assessment Management

SIG, custom ABA-aligned questionnaires, or SOC 2 evidence review—distributed, tracked, and analyzed. We chase vendor responses and validate controls so your attorneys don't have to.

Risk Scoring & Remediation

Quantified risk ratings mapped to ABA ethics requirements and applicable regulations, with issue-level remediation plans and tracked deadlines for each vendor.

Continuous Monitoring

Dark web exposure monitoring for client data, breach report tracking, financial health signals, and cyber rating feeds on critical vendors between assessment cycles.

Regulatory Alignment

Mapped to ABA Model Rules 1.6(c) and 5.3, Formal Opinions 477R and 483, state bar requirements, and applicable frameworks including NYDFS 23 NYCRR 500 and SEC Regulation S-P.

Reporting & Governance

Monthly operational reports, quarterly executive summaries, annual maturity assessments, and audit-ready evidence packages for ethics compliance and cyber insurance renewal.

WHY THIS MATTERS

Third-Party Breaches Hitting Law Firms

Incident	Impact	Lesson
MOVEit (2023)	67M+ individuals affected across 2,500+ orgs including several large law firms. 240+ consolidated lawsuits.	File transfer vendors are critical attack vectors. Patch management and vendor monitoring are essential.
Accellion FTA (2021)	Multiple large law firms confirmed affected. Data stolen and posted on dark web. $8.1M settlement.	Legacy vendor technology creates outsized risk. Regular vendor reassessment is mandatory.
Microsoft Exchange (2020)	State-sponsored breach of a large law firm via zero-day vulnerabilities. SEC subpoenaed 298 client names; court ordered disclosure of 7.	Breaches can trigger SEC enforcement and privilege conflicts. Vendor oversight reduces exposure.

IMPLEMENTATION

Low-Friction Onboarding

Our streamlined onboarding process gets your managed TPRM program operational quickly with minimal disruption to your practice. From initial discovery through steady-state operations, we handle the heavy lifting so your attorneys can focus on client work—not vendor questionnaires.

BUILT FOR LEGAL

Who This Is For

- ✓ Am Law and mid-market firms managing complex vendor ecosystems touching client data
- ✓ Corporate legal departments overseeing outside counsel and legal technology vendors
- ✓ Firms handling M&A;, securities, or litigation with heightened data sensitivity

- ✓ Organizations preparing for state bar audits, ethics reviews, or cyber insurance renewal
- ✓ Legal service providers and e-discovery vendors with downstream client data obligations

DIFFERENTIATORS

Why The Fowler Group

Practitioner-Led

Managed by CISSP/CISM-certified professionals with experience securing law firm environments and understanding privilege implications.

Platform Agnostic

We work inside your existing tool or deploy our own. No vendor lock-in. Purpose-built workflows for legal vendor management.

Ethics-Aligned

Programs built around ABA Model Rules, Formal Opinions, and state bar requirements—not generic frameworks bolted onto legal.

Scales on Demand

From 25 critical vendors to 500+. Scales with your firm's growth, lateral hires, and practice expansions without adding headcount.

Informed by Experience

Our evaluation process is informed by decades of experience dealing with real threats and incidents involving third parties.

Ready to protect your clients' most sensitive information?

Schedule a complimentary TPRM readiness assessment for your firm. info@thefowlergroupllc.com · tfgcyber.com