

STOP WIRE FRAUD



**BEWARE
OF WIRE
FRAUD**



Fraudsters are targeting businesses with wire transfer scams, tricking them into revealing bank and sensitive information. Weak controls, poor training, or judgment lapses can enable these schemes, and once funds are sent, recovery is rarely possible.

THINK BEFORE YOU ACT: STAY SAFE FROM FRAUDSTERS

How This Scam Works

A business is contacted by a fraudster impersonating the company's bank or credit union regarding a wire transfer.

The fraudster claims to be questioning the validity of a wire transfer request and asks the victim to verify their bank account, multi-factor authentication, and wire transfer reference numbers.

Once the fraudster has the wire transfer information, they can create a fraudulent wire transfer to another bank account they've already established. They will monitor its activity, immediately verify receipt of the money, and withdraw the funds.

Tactics

Urgency, scarcity, sophisticated impersonation, business email compromise.

What's Your Risk?

Wire transfer fraud poses a serious threat, particularly to businesses and individuals who rely on this payment method. Review the processes below to strengthen your security, and apply the recommended internal controls to protect your business.

EDUCATE EMPLOYEES | BE SUSPICIOUS | USE SECURE COMMUNICATION
VERIFY CONTACT INFO | IMPLEMENT DUAL CONTROLS

As a reminder,

Your financial institution will never ask you to provide sensitive account information it already has.



Fraud Facts

- The median loss for organizations with <100 employees was \$141,000 and \$200,000 for those with >10,000 employees. (2024) - Association of Certified Fraud Examiners
- Wire fraud can result in direct financial loss, including expenses related to an investigation(s) and legal fees. Businesses with insurance coverage may be responsible for deductibles and increased premiums. - BILL
- The FBI and US Secret Service are the primary federal agencies that investigate wire transfer fraud. - FBI

Resources

What To Know Before You Wire Money, Federal Trade Commission
The Fraud Risk Management Guide, Association of Certified Fraud Examiners
Common Fraud and Scams, FBI