

HOW TO PREVENT WIRE FRAUD AT YOUR LAW FIRM



WIRE FRAUD

Criminals are actively targeting Florida law firms that engage in wire transactions. They are very good at what they do – and far too many firms have fallen prey. Don't be one of them.

Follow these tips!

RED FLAGS

- Urgent requests for a wire transfer or disbursement of funds
- Last-minute changes in the wiring instructions
- Slight variations on the sender's email address
- Emails with incorrect spelling, odd phrasing, or unusual formatting or writing style
- Incoming phone calls from unfamiliar persons or phone numbers

PREVENTION

- Train yourself and your staff. (Most critical errors are made by support staff!)
- Train your clients too. They should be on guard for criminals posing as your firm.
- Keep your spam filters and firewalls up to date.
- Consider hiring a cybersecurity consultant to vet your fraud prevention & secure your systems.
- Always assume information supplied by email (phone numbers, bank account numbers, email addresses, etc.) may be fraudulent.

THE GOLDEN RULE:

*Before initiating any wire transfer, **always call** the person using a previously confirmed phone number and verbally verify the wire request and wire instructions.*

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