

Alerts

Warning: Emails misusing the name of Linklaters LLP

10 May 2019

Emails have been sent misusing the name Linklaters LLP, providing supposed updated bank details.

What is the scam?

Emails have been sent claiming to be from a genuine firm (see below), requesting the transfer of funds to a purportedly new bank account.

The emails seen by the SRA were sent to a client of the genuine firm and requested that funds were paid into a "subsidiary bank account". A separate document called "Linklaters Bank information" was attached to one of the emails, claiming to provide details of the supposed bank account.

The emails and the attached document misuse the name, address and website of the genuine firm (see below).

The emails seen by the SRA were sent using the domain names "@linkiakers.com" and "@linklalers.com" and claimed to be sent from one of the firm's Legal Project Managers.

Any business or transactions through emails using the domain names referred to above are not undertaken by a firm or solicitor authorised and regulated by the SRA.

Is there a genuine firm or person?

The SRA authorises and regulates a genuine firm of solicitors called Linklaters LLP whose head office is One Silk Street, London, EC2Y 8HQ. The genuine firm's email addresses end with the domain "@linklaters.com". The genuine firm's website is www.linklaters.com.

The genuine firm has confirmed that it is not connected to the emails and document referred to in the above alert.

What should I do?

When a firm's or individual's identity has been copied exactly (or cloned), due diligence is necessary. If you receive correspondence claiming to be from the above firm(s) or individual(s), or information of a similar nature to that described, you should conduct your own due diligence by checking the authenticity of the correspondence by contacting the law firm directly by reliable and established means. You can contact the SRA to find out if individuals or firms are regulated and authorised by the SRA and verify an individual's or firm's practising details. Other verification methods, such as checking public records (e.g. telephone directories and company records) may be required in other circumstances.