

Scam alerts round-up

Overview of recent scam activity

Our round up highlights the latest high-risk scams for both members of the public and solicitors.

We want to help people make well-informed choices about using legal services. As well as supporting solicitors to help keep their firm safe.

In the last three months from **1 February 2024 to 30 April 2024**, we have published 87 scam alerts.

We have set out below a summary of the different platforms that have been used in these scams.

Inheritance entitlement to money (2)

- Emails misusing the name of Burges Salmon LLP and Richard Leeming
[<https://www.sra.org.uk/consumers/scam-alerts/2024/apr/burges-salmon-llp-richard-leeming/>]
- Email misusing the name of Bradley 'Brad' Armstrong and MSB Solicitors Limited
[<https://www.sra.org.uk/consumers/scam-alerts/2024/mar/msb-solicitors-limited/>]

Emails/phishing/malware (38)

- Email misusing the name of Clarke Willmott
[<https://www.sra.org.uk/consumers/scam-alerts/2024/feb/clarke-willmott/>]
- Phishing emails falsely claiming to be from Neale Turk LLP
[<https://www.sra.org.uk/consumers/scam-alerts/2024/apr/neale-turk-llp/>]
[<https://www.sra.org.uk/consumers/scam-alerts/2023/dec/simmons-simmons-llp/>]
- Emails misusing the name of Amanda Holden and Carvers Solicitors
[<https://www.sra.org.uk/consumers/scam-alerts/2024/apr/amanda-holden-carvers-solicitors/>]
[<https://www.sra.org.uk/consumers/scam-alerts/2024/jan/hewitts-plp/>]

Bogus firms (12)

- Website claiming to be a law firm called 'Piccadilly Attorneys'
[<https://www.sra.org.uk/consumers/scam-alerts/2024/feb/piccadilly-attorneys/>]
- Website called 'Likewood Inc Limited' claiming to be a law firm misusing the name of Usman Sheikh
[<https://www.sra.org.uk/consumers/scam-alerts/2024/mar/usman-sheikh/>]
- Website claiming to be a law firm called 'Daniel Richardson LLP'
[<https://www.sra.org.uk/consumers/scam-alerts/2024/mar/daniel-richardson-llp/>]

Other (eg. documents, telephone calls and websites) (37)

- 'Crawley Family Lawyers Ltd' and the website 'gawley-family.com'
[<https://www.sra.org.uk/consumers/scam-alerts/2024/feb/crawley-family-lawyers/>]
- Social media accounts misusing the name of 'Akhmed Yakoob'
[<https://www.sra.org.uk/consumers/scam-alerts/2024/mar/akhmed-yakoob/>]
- Stamped document misusing the name of BGM Law Ltd and Manraj Somal
[<https://www.sra.org.uk/consumers/scam-alerts/2024/apr/bgm-law-ltd-manraj-somal/>]

What you should do

Members of the public

- Check that any unexpected correspondence received is genuine - particularly if it asks you to provide personal information, funds or informs you of new bank details - by contacting the law firm directly by reliable and established means.
- You can Contact us [<https://www.sra.org.uk/contactus>] to find out if a solicitor or law firm is regulated and authorised by the SRA.
- You may also need to verify details independently, such as checking public records (eg. telephone directories and company records) in some circumstances.

Solicitors and law firms

Useful resources to help keep your firm safe:

- Risk outlook [<https://www.sra.org.uk/archive/risk/risk-outlook/>]
- Risk publications [<https://www.sra.org.uk/archive/risk/risk-resources/>]

Last updated: May 2024 | **Next update due:** August 2024