

# Scams round-up

## *Overview of 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 December to February 2020, we have published 39 scam alerts. This is a decrease in the scam alerts that we published in the previous three months.

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

### *Recent scams*

#### *Inheritance/Entitlement to money*

6 alerts in 3 months.

Examples include:

Emails misusing the names of Trowers & Hamlins LLP and Peter Ward [\[consumers/scam-alerts/2020/jan/trowers-hamlins-llp-peter-ward/\]](#)

Emails misusing the name of Bevan Brittan LLP [\[consumers/scam-alerts/2020/jan/bevan-brittan-llp/\]](#)

Misusing the name Hugo Moore [\[consumers/scam-alerts/2020/jan/hugo-moore/\]](#)

More information on these type of scams [\[solicitors/guidance/fraud/inheritance-scams/\]](#)

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#### *Emails/Phishing/Malware*

15 alerts in 3 months.

Emails misusing the name Rawlins Davy Limited [\[consumers/scam-alerts/2019/dec/rawlins-davy-limited/\]](#)

Emails from "Bastows Solicitors", which may contain or link to malware [\[consumers/scam-alerts/2019/dec/bastows-solicitors/\]](#)

Emails misusing the name of Kate Hathaway of Blake Morgan LLP [\[consumers/scam-alerts/2020/jan/blake-morgan-llp/\]](#)

More information on these type of scams [\[risk/risk-resources/information-security-report/\]](#)

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#### *Bogus websites*

13 alerts in 3 months.

Examples include:

The website "www|whitehallchambersky|com" [\[consumers/scam-alerts/2019/dec/whitehall-chambersky/\]](#)

Charles Burton Solutions and the website "charlesburtonsolutions|com" [\[consumers/scam-](#)

[alerts/2019/dec/charles-burton/](#)

"London Court Chamber Solicitors" and the website "[www.londoncourtchambersolicitors.com](#)" [\[consumers/scam-alerts/2019/dec/london-court-chamber/\]](#)

More information on these type of scams [\[consumers/problems/fraud-dishonesty/bogus-fake-solicitors/\]](#)

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### *Other*

We have published 5 other alerts about other types of scam.

Examples include:

"Christian Chiboa Egwe" or "Chris Egwe" [\[consumers/scam-alerts/2020/jan/egwe/\]](#)

"Michael Wilson" misusing the name of TLT LLP [\[consumers/scam-alerts/2020/jan/michael-wilson-misusing-the-name-of-tlt-llp/\]](#)

Unsolicited telephone calls claiming to be from "MTA Solicitors" [\[consumers/scam-alerts/2020/feb/mta-solicitors/\]](#)

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## *What you should do*

### *Members of the public*

- You should check any unexpected correspondence received is genuine (particularly correspondence asking you to provide personal information, funds or informing you of new bank details), by contacting the law firm directly by reliable and established means.
- You can contact us [\[contactus\]](#) to find out if a solicitor or law firm are regulated and authorised by the SRA.
- You may also need to independently verify details, such as checking public records (e.g. telephone directories and company records) in some circumstances.

### *Solicitors and law firms*

Here are some useful resources to help keep your firm safe.

- Read our priority risk on information security and bogus firms [\[risk/outlook/priority-risks/information-cyber-security/\]](#).
  - Get practical help from our 'In the shadows: Risks associated with bogus firms [\[risk/risk-resources/risks-associated-bogus-firms/\]](#)' report.
  - Our latest report on information security [\[risk/risk-resources/information-security-report/\]](#) includes advice on how firms can keep cyber-secure.
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