

Alerts

Warning: Letters misusing the name of Slater and Gordon UK Limited

16 April 2021

Correspondence has been sent misusing the names of Michael Stockton and Slater and Gordon UK Limited.

What is the scam?

Letters have been sent to members of the public falsely claiming to be from 'Michael Stockton' of 'Slater and Gordon Lawyers'.

The letters claim that 'Michael Stockton' is the probate solicitor for a deceased individual who supposedly used to live at the current owners' address, and to forward all of the deceased individual's correspondence to continue the probate process.

The letters provide a false contact telephone number of 0203 404 2410. The letter also misuses a genuine branch office address of the genuine firm (see below for genuine details).

Is there a genuine firm or person?

The SRA authorises and regulates a genuine firm of solicitors called Slater and Gordon UK Limited. The firm has a branch address of 90 High Holborn, London, WC1Z 6LJ. The telephone number for the High Holborn branch is 0207 657 1555 and the main telephone contact number for the firm is 0330 107 6485.

The SRA also authorises and regulates a genuine solicitor called Michael Stockton who was formerly an Associate at Slater and Gordon UK Limited. He left the firm in August/September 2020.

The genuine firm of Slater and Gordon UK Limited has confirmed that neither the firm nor the genuine Michael Stockton have any genuine and intended connection to the correspondence referred to in the alert above.

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.