

Alerts

Warning: Documents signed and stamped by "Mr Ferguson James", misusing the name "TLT Solicitors Law Firm"

6 March 2020

A document has been signed and stamped by "Mr Ferguson James - Attorney at Law", claiming to be of "TLT Solicitors Law Firm".

What is the scam?

The SRA has been informed that some members of the public have received a document signed and stamped by an individual using the name "Mr Ferguson James", claiming to be "Attorney at Law" at "TLT Solicitors Law Firm London UK".

The SRA understands the documents were used in respect of a potential investment in a business.

The SRA does not authorise or regulate any solicitors called "Ferguson James" or a firm formally called "TLT Solicitors Law Firm" (but see below in relation to a genuine firm with a similar name).

Any business or transaction through documents or correspondence from "Ferguson James" of "TLT Solicitors Law Firm" are not undertaken by a solicitor or firm authorised and regulated by the SRA.

Is there a genuine firm or person?

TLT LLP is a genuine firm of solicitors which is authorised and regulated by the SRA. The genuine firm's head office is in Bristol and it has multiple other offices, including one at 20 Gresham Street, London, EC2V 7JE.

The genuine firm has confirmed that they do not employ an individual called "Ferguson James" and have no connection to the documents 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.