

Current market trends

Social media platforms allow for sharing information and ideas globally and can be a great resource to connect with friends and family or grow a business. Unfortunately, while there are positive and constructive ways to use social media platforms, fraudsters are using social media at an alarming rate to post intel on how to commit fraud against financial institutions. Fraudsters use social media platforms and private discussion boards to exchange and sell stolen personally identifiable information (PII), sell bots used to set up new accounts automatically, and post videos with step-by-step instructions on how to defraud financial institutions. These instructional videos are tailored to a financial institution and outline how the fraudster can circumvent the applicable fraud controls. This information is used to open new fraudulent customer accounts and fraudulently take over existing customer accounts. This behavior can become very costly to a financial institution from a financial standpoint through fraud losses, increased compliance costs, and the costs associated with losing customers due to damage to the financial institution's brand and reputation.

Protecting your organization against threats

- 1 Consistently monitor social media sites for potentially fraudulent activity. This could include:
 - Activity specifically involving your financial institution
 - Identifying other institutions that fraudsters may have accounts with to fund or withdraw funds from these fraudulently created or obtained accounts
 - Identify industry trends to identify possible fraudulent methods or other red flags
- 2 Implement or supplement controls in the account opening process, including verifying identities and beneficial ownership of business accounts
- 3 Conduct internal trend analysis to reveal patterns of potential account fraud
- 4 Train employees on new and developing fraud schemes
- 5 Enhance communication across the organization to share trends, patterns and red flags
- 6 Report these posts to the proper authorities and application administrators to remove the postings

Next steps with EY Forensic & Integrity Services

- Our EY Forensics team can deploy cost effective teams to conduct monitoring of social media sites on behalf of your organization and assist in creating a formalized social media monitoring program
- Provide training and educate employees on potential red flags
- 3 Perform trend analysis to identify potentially fraudulent accounts
- 4 Propose policy and procedure updates to enhance information sharing across the organization
- 5 Recommend controls to mitigate risks associated with these bad actors

The EY Forensics team is uniquely positioned to help your organization combat these threats. We have the experience and leading-edge data analytics to assist in identifying and mitigating these threats. Our knowledge also includes implementing controls, as well as a robust detection process to identify future threats.

Forensic & Integrity Services team Ernst & Young LLP



Arpi Lal Partner +1 212 773 3038 arpi.lal@ey.com



Clay Roberts Senior Manager +1 212 773 9481 clay.roberts@ey.com



Erin Poggi Manager +1 212 466 9048 erin.poggi@ey.com



Josh Vine Senior +1 212 773 1766 josh.vine@ey.com

EY | Building a better working world

EY exists to build a better working world, helping to create long-term value for clients, people and society and build trust in the capital markets.

Enabled by data and technology, diverse EY teams in over 150 countries provide trust through assurance and help clients grow, transform and operate.

Working across assurance, consulting, law, strategy, tax and transactions, EY teams ask better questions to find new answers for the complex issues facing our world today.

EY refers to the global organization, and may refer to one or more, of the member firms of Ernst & Young Global Limited, each of which is a separate legal entity. Ernst & Young Global Limited, a UK company limited by guarantee, does not provide services to clients. Information about how EY collects and uses personal data and a description of the rights individuals have under data protection legislation are available via ey.com/privacy. EY member firms do not practice law where prohibited by local laws. For more information about our organization, please visit ey.com.

Ernst & Young LLP is a client-serving member firm of Ernst & Young Global Limited operating in the US.

About EY Forensic & Integrity Services

Embedding integrity into an organization's strategic vision and day-to-day operations is critical when managing complex issues of fraud, regulatory compliance, investigations and business disputes. Our international team of more than 4,000 forensic and technology professionals helps leaders balance business objectives and risks, build data-centric ethics and compliance programs, and ultimately develop a culture of integrity. We consider your distinct circumstances and needs to assemble the right multidisciplinary and culturally aligned team for you and your legal advisors. We strive to bring you the benefits of our leading technology, deep subject-matter knowledge and broad global sector experience.

© 2022 Ernst & Young LLP. All Rights Reserved.

US SCORE no. 15770-221US

2202-3987191 ED None

This material has been prepared for general informational purposes only and is not intended to be relied upon as accounting, tax, legal or other professional advice. Please refer to your advisors for specific advice.

ey.com/us/forensics