

BITS

FINANCIAL SERVICES
R O U N D T A B L E

To: Robert Bond, U.S. Secret Service
Maxwell D. Marker, Federal Bureau of Investigation

From: Catherine A. Allen, CEO, BITS
Shirley Inscoe, Co-Chair, BITS Fraud Reduction Steering Committee
Bob Jones, Co-Chair, BITS Fraud Reduction Steering Committee
Gayle Helm, Chair, BITS Internet Fraud Working Group

Re: Law enforcement contacts for email hoaxes

Date: July 29, 2003

BITS, a non-profit consortium of the 100 largest financial institutions in the United States, in its continuing efforts to combat fraud in the financial services industry, is requesting your assistance in identifying the appropriate contacts within your organizations for reporting email hoaxes perpetrated by fraudsters.

As you are aware, many scams have surfaced that attempt to get people to log into bogus Web sites so the perpetrators can capture their personal data. Some of these scams attempt to have the user execute and install a Trojan horse virus that will leave computers vulnerable to attack. Often these scams include emails appearing to be from a financial institution, in the hope the perpetrators will obtain, at a minimum, a victim's online banking information.

When reporting these incidents to law enforcement, institutions often rely on the aid of whichever agency is responsive to their request for assistance. This can vary widely depending on state and region. We would appreciate your assistance in identifying the appropriate agent or agents to be notified when an email hoax has occurred. It is our hope that by forwarding the information to the proper contacts, the information could be compiled to build cases and identify fraud rings more quickly.

We appreciate your consideration of our request. Should you have any questions, please contact Robin Slade, Director, BITS, at 773-975-0535 or at robin@fsround.org.

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BITS Fraud Reduction Steering Committee

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BITS AFFILIATE ORGANIZATIONS

ORGANIZATION	CITY
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Association for Payment Clearing Services (APACS)	London
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US Department of the Navy	Reston
Financial Services Technology Consortium (FSTC)	Chicago

