

# BUSINESS EMAIL COMPROMISE CHECKLIST

Have you been a victim of CEO or Wire Transfer Fraud, commonly known as Business Email Compromise (BEC)? Below are some tips for immediate and preventative actions.



## IMMEDIATE ACTIONS

### Internal Actions

- 01 Review all IP logs accessing the relevant infrastructure (internal mail servers or other publically accessible infrastructure) — looking for unusual activity.
- 02 Scan for log-in locational data. Was there a log-in from an unknown country or location, specific to that email account?
- 03 Review the relevant email account(s) which may have been spoofed or otherwise compromised for any rules such as "auto forward" or "auto delete."
- 04 Inform employees/agents of the situation and require they contact clients and customers who are near the wire transfer stage.
- 05 Review all requests that asked for a change in payment type or location. ***Remain especially vigilant on transactions expected to occur immediately prior to a holiday or weekend.***

### Reporting the Incident

#### CONTACT YOUR BANK

- 01 Determine the appropriate contact at your bank, who has the authority to recall a wire transfer. Scan for log-in locational data. Was there a log-in from an unknown country or location, specific to that email account?
- 02 Notify your bank if you have been the victim of a Business Email Compromise.  
AND
- 03 Request a wire recall or SWIFT Recall Message.  
AND
- 04 Request they fully cooperate with law enforcement.

#### REPORT THE INCIDENT (OR ATTEMPT) TO THE FBI AT IC3.GOV

- 01 Provide all details for the beneficiary: Account numbers, contact information, and names.
- 02 Contact your local FBI Field Office.

# PREVENTION & RECOGNITION ACTIONS

- ▶ Does the Routing Number provided to you, resolve to the expected bank used by the other party?

*(Example: Have you received wire information for an account at a Hong Kong bank; however, your other party only banks in the U.S?)*

Possible websites to verify a Routing Number:

- a. The Federal Reserve: **FRBServices.org**
- b. American Bankers Association:  
**RoutingNumber.ABA.com**

- ▶ Call a known/trusted phone number or meet in person to confirm the wire transfer information provided to you, matches the other party's information.
- ▶ Hover your cursor over suspicious email addresses — looking for indications of Display Name Deception or Spoofing.
- ▶ DO NOT hover on links within emails, as simply hovering may execute commands.

- ▶ Regularly check your email account log-in activity for possible signs of email compromise.
- ▶ Regularly check your email account for new "rules", such as email forwarding and/or auto delete.
- ▶ Be cautious of "new" customers, suppliers, clients and/or others you don't know who ask you to:
  - a. ...Open or download any documents they sendOR
  - b. ...Sign into a separate window or click on a link to view an invoice or documentOR
  - c. ...Provide sensitive Personal or Corporate information
- ▶ Verify the wire instructions you provide to your customers/clients are accurate for both the pertinent bank and pertinent account.
  - a. Where did you get the account data?
  - b. Is this the correct account number?

Source: Department of Justice, Federal Bureau of Investigation