

OFAC ALERT



Notice of Fraudulent Communications Requesting Payments Involving OFAC

The U.S. Department of the Treasury's Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC) is issuing this alert to make the public aware of telephone, email, and letter scams involving individuals falsely claiming to represent OFAC and requesting payments. These scammers often demand payments, occasionally described as "fees" or "taxes," necessary for OFAC to release funds or pay some form of restitution. These communications are fraudulent and are not initiated by OFAC. OFAC does not collect, demand, or request this type of payment from members of the public. You should not share any personal or confidential information, such as account information, with, nor make any payments to, any person purporting to represent OFAC in this way.

One example involves timeshare fraud schemes, where scammers have falsely claimed that OFAC has "blocked" payments of taxes made by the timeshare owner. Third-party scammers subsequently contact the timeshare owner, falsely claiming to represent OFAC, and demand payments in exchange for the release of the purported "blocked" funds. For more information on these scams, see Treasury's [press release](#) on OFAC sanctions against one timeshare fraud network.

If you believe you are a victim of a financial scam or fraud, you should report this information to local, state, or federal law enforcement authorities. You may also wish to report this information to the U.S. Department of the Treasury's Office of the Inspector General (OIG) via the OIG Hotline at this [website](#).

Additional Information on Common Financial Scams and How to Report Them

U.S. Department of the Treasury's Office of Inspector General Fraud Alerts: <https://oig.treasury.gov/fraud-alerts>

U.S. Department of the Treasury's Office of Inspector General: <https://oig.treasury.gov/report-fraud-waste-and-abuse>

Financial Crimes Enforcement Network (FinCEN) Financial Scams Reminder: <https://www.fincen.gov/fincen-reminds-public-be-wary-fraudulent-correspondence-and-phone-calls>

Internal Revenue Service (IRS) Tax Fraud Alerts: <https://www.irs.gov/compliance/criminal-investigation/tax-fraud-alerts>

Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) Scams and Safety webpage: <https://www.fbi.gov/how-we-can-help-you/safety-resources/scams-and-safety>



OFAC Compliance Hotline

1-202-622-2490

1-800-540-6322

OFAC_Feedback@treasury.gov

