



The Law Society of Singapore
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Media Release - Fraudsters targeting law practices

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Fraudsters have tried to scam the public by pretending to be senior lawyers.

In one instance, fraudsters used the name of a senior partner in a large law firm to trick a member of the public into a loan transaction. The fraudsters forged a letter, using that senior partner's name and law practice without his knowledge or consent. The fraudsters used that forged letter to deceive a member of the public to transfer \$500 to a bank account. That money was subsequently lost.

In another case, fraudsters used an email address that was almost identical to that of a well-known law firm's email address. The intention was to mislead email recipients to reply to the email. Had recipients done so, those recipients might have had their email accounts hacked.

The Law Society warns everyone to stay alert. If you receive an email from your lawyer asking you to transfer funds, please speak to the lawyer to verify the email. Do not proceed to transfer funds unless you get confirmation from your lawyer. If you are shown a document bearing the name of a lawyer or law firm, don't assume that it is legitimate. Carry out your own checks, especially if money is involved.

Sidebar:

WHAT TO DO TO AVOID AND MANAGE THE RISKS OF SCAMS

Always check with your lawyer if you receive an e-mail requesting for funds transfer/payment (by whatever mode) **before** taking any action.

Always check with your lawyer if you receive any instruction on funds transfer deviating from your last communication with your lawyer, **before** taking any action.

ABOUT THE LAW SOCIETY

Established in 1967, the Law Society of Singapore is a body established under the Legal Profession Act. It carries out various statutory functions prescribed under the Legal Profession Act, including maintaining and improving the standards of conduct and learning of the legal profession in Singapore, the facilitation of the acquisition of legal knowledge by members of the legal profession, and protecting and assisting the public in all matters ancillary or incidental to the law.

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