



OCC ALERT

Comptroller of the Currency
Administrator of National Banks

Subject:	Fictitious Regulatory Agency Issuances	Description:	Fictitious Financial Programs Attributed To the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency
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TO: Chief Executive Officers of All National Banks; All State Banking Authorities; Chairman, Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System; Chairman, Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation; Conference of State Bank Supervisors; Deputy Comptrollers (districts); Assistant Deputy Comptrollers; District Counsel and Examining Personnel

RE: Fraudulent proposals regarding the transfer of international payments or the release of payments under the control of federal bank regulatory authorities.

The Office of the Comptroller of the Currency (OCC) has received copies of numerous fictitious documents by facsimile and e-mail that contain proposals involving claims to certain international payments reportedly held by the OCC. The names and signatures on these documents are not those of real OCC officials. Furthermore, the format of the documents and e-mail addresses are not used by the OCC.

The OCC does not have, nor has it ever had, any involvement in the transfer of funds, nationally or internationally, for persons, nor does it maintain any type of deposit account for, or in the name of any person(s). If you receive any communication sent via e-mail, fax or regular mail, stating that:

- The OCC or an official of the OCC is requesting assistance in the transfer of funds, or that
- The OCC is holding, or has placed a hold on, funds for the benefit of a person or for a person's account;

do not respond to the communication; it is a fraudulent item.

Attached are two samples (forwarded to this office) of e-mail messages containing fictitious proposals and other content including phone numbers. Please see similar information contained in Alert 2001-5 and attachments.

The OCC strongly recommends that prior to responding to this or a similar type of proposal, you exercise extreme caution to ensure that the proposal presented to you is legitimate. At a minimum, the OCC recommends that you:

- Obtain direct verification of the facts presented to you by contacting your financial institution; or
- Contact the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency.

Any information that you may have concerning this matter should be brought to the attention of:

Mail Office of the Comptroller of the Currency
Enforcement & Compliance Division
250 E Street, SW, Washington, DC 20219
Fax (202) 874-5301
Internet <http://www.occ.treas.gov>
E-mail occalertresponses@occ.treas.gov

Brian C. McCormally
Director for Enforcement & Compliance

Attachments

- [Sample A](#)
- [Sample B](#)