Regulatory Notice

21-20

FINRA Alerts Firms to Phishing Email Using "gateway-finra.org" Domain Name

Summary

FINRA warns member firms of an ongoing phishing campaign that involves fraudulent emails (see sample in Appendix) purporting to be from FINRA and using the domain name "@gateway-finra.org." The email asks the recipient to click a link to "view request" and provide information to "complete" that request, noting that "late submission may attract penalties."

FINRA recommends that anyone who clicked on any link or image in the email immediately notify the appropriate individuals in their firm of the incident.

The domain of "gateway-finra.org" is not connected to FINRA and firms should delete all emails originating from this domain name.

FINRA reminds firms to verify the legitimacy of any suspicious email prior to responding to it, opening any attachments or clicking on any embedded links.

FINRA has requested that the Internet domain registrar suspend services for "gateway-finra.org."

For more information, firms should review the resources provided on <u>FINRA's Cybersecurity Topic Page</u>, including the Phishing section of our Report on Cybersecurity Practices – 2018.

Questions regarding this *Notice* should be directed to:

- Dave Kelley, Director, Member Supervision Specialist Programs, at (816) 802-4729 or by email; or
- Greg Markovich, Senior Principal Risk Specialist, Member Supervision Specialist Programs, at (312) 899-4604 or by email.

June 7, 2021

Notice Type

► Special Alert

Suggested Routing

- ► Legal
- ► Legal and Compliance
- ► Risk Management
- ► Senior Management

Key Topics

- Cybersecurity
- ► Fake FINRA domain name
- ► Fraud



Appendix

From: Name < name@gateway-finra.org>
Date: Monday, June 7, 2021 at 1.25 PM
To: Name < name@firmname.com>
Subject: New Request for Firm Name



Dear Richard,

A Firm Compliance Request has been issued by FINRA for your firm

Follow the information in the letter above to complete the request. Late submission may attract penalties.

Please respond to this email for additional information.

Sincerely,

Principal Compliance Examiner Financial Industry Regulatory Authority (FINRA) 1735 K Street, NW Washington, DC 20006

If any documents responsive to this request include BSA Confidential Information, please include the terms "BSA Confidential Material" in the title of the document. BSA Confidential Information includes Suspicious Activity Reports (SARs) and information revealing the existence of 1) a specific SAR or 2) a member firm's affirmative decision not to file a SAR.

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