The Intersection of Stalking & Financial Fraud

Produced by:
National Center for Victims of Crime
FINRA Investor Education Foundation
National Center for Victims of Crime

► Mission: Forge a national commitment to help victims of crime rebuild their lives

► Through collaboration with local, state, and federal partners, the National Center:
  – Advocates for stronger rights, protections, and services for crime victims
  – Provides education, training, and Evaluation
  – Serves as a trusted source of current information on victims’ issues
Stalking Resource Center

- In-person training
- Webinars
- Individual & organizational assistance
- Fact sheets, brochures, manuals, guides
- Policy/protocol development & consultation
- Videos
- Online resources
- National Stalking Awareness Month materials

www.victimsofcrime.org/src
Financial Crime Resource Center

► Affiliate of the National Center for Victims of Crime

► **Mission**: Help victims of financial crime recover their assets and recover control of their lives

► Partner with organizations around the U.S. who work with victims of fraud, identity theft and other financial crimes to ensure that victims have access to the best possible recovery
Financial Industry Regulatory Authority (FINRA)

- Independent, non-governmental regulator for all securities firms doing business with the public in the U.S.
- Protects investors and maintains market integrity in a public-private partnership with the SEC
- Created through consolidation of NASD and NYSE Regulation
- Regulation, enforcement, education

FINRA Investor Education Foundation

- Awards grants and manages targeted projects focused on investor education and protection
Elaina Roberts is the Legal Director for the Stalking Resource Center (SRC) at the National Center for Victims of Crime in Washington, D.C. Elaina provides technical assistance and training on all aspects of stalking to judges, prosecutors, law enforcement, victim service providers, and other allied professionals. Prior to joining the SRC, Elaina was an Assistant District Attorney in Albuquerque, NM.

Laura Cook is the Director of the Financial Crime Resource Center. She has also coordinated multiple webinars on identity theft, mass marketing fraud, investment and securities fraud, mortgage and lending fraud, and elder financial exploitation. She is a graduate of The University of Pittsburgh and the Temple University Beasley School of Law.
Identity Theft & Financial Crimes Overview
An Advocate’s Guide

Laying the Foundation

The Advocate’s Role

Action Steps

Additional Resources

Taking Action
An Advocate’s Guide to Assisting Victims of Financial Fraud
More than 8 in 10 solicited for potentially fraudulent offers

$50 BILLION per year lost to fraud

Americans age 65 and older are more likely to be targeted and 34% more likely to lose money once targeted than respondents in their 40s.

Major Categories

1. Identity Theft
2. Investment Fraud
3. Mortgage and Lending Fraud
4. Mass Marketing and Other Fraud
Definition of Identity Theft

- Someone uses a consumer’s personal information to fraudulently obtain goods or services.

- Can be the result of imposter scams, skimming, phishing, data breaches, or theft.

Tip!

Use Annualcreditreport.com
NOT freecreditreport.com
Romance Scams

- Romance scams occur when a perpetrator feigns romantic intentions towards a victim, gaining their affection, and then using that goodwill to commit fraud.

- The Internet Crime Complaint Center (IC3) saw a loss of more than $197 million from confidence frauds in 2015.

- Result in the significant amount of loss.
  - Average victim loses over $100K.

- 900 more complaints from June – Dec. 2015 as compared to June – Dec. 2014; amount lost is $27 million more.

- Women and men aged 40-60 are most frequent targets.
High-Target Populations

► **Seniors** - from 2012 to 2014, complaints to FTC up 47%
  ► Dependent, Physical Impairments, Cognitive or Age-Related Mental Capacity, Grieving lost ones, Near-Retirees, Generally Hold the Wealth
  ► Every 8 seconds an American turns 65
  ► As cognition declines, financial skills are often the first to go

► **Victims of Domestic Violence**
  ► ID Theft is a form of economic abuse and a form of surveillance and stalking

► **Previous victims**
The Costs of Fraud

► $50 billion per year is lost to fraud, but that’s not the whole story.

► There is an emotional side of fraud that is not often talked about.

NEARLY 2/3 of victims reported experiencing at least one non-financial cost of fraud to a serious degree.

- 50% Severe stress
- 44% Anxiety
- 38% Difficulty sleeping
- 35% Depression
Stalking Overview
Stalking

A pattern of behavior directed at a specific person that would cause a reasonable person to feel fear.
• 7.5 million people stalked in the US per year

• By Gender
  – 4% of women
  – 2% of men

• Lifetime
  – 1 in 6 women
  – 1 in 19 men

- The National Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Survey (NISVS): 2010-2012 State Report
Victim & Offender Relationship

- Current/Former IP: Male (43%), Female (62%)
- Acquaintance: Male (37%), Female (26%)
- Stranger: Male (17%), Female (15%)
- Family member: Male (11%), Female (7%)
- Person of authority: Male (3%), Female (2%)

-The National Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Survey (NISVS): 2010-2012 State Report
Intersection with Other Crimes
Identification of Stalking

The following may be a part of the stalking behavior:

- Domestic violence
- OP violations
- Assault
- Harassment
- Trespass
- Home invasion
- Attempted murder
- Sexual assault

- Identity theft
- Kidnapping
- Vandalism
- Wiretapping or utility theft
- Burglary
- Theft
- Child Abuse
- Hate Crimes
Stalking and Other Crimes

• Among stalking cases…
  – 24% involve property damage
  – 21% involve a direct attack on the victim
  – 15% involve an attack on another person or pet
Stalking and Domestic Violence

3/4 of women who experienced stalking-related behaviors experienced other forms of victimization (sexual, physical, or both).

81% of stalking victims who were stalked by an intimate partner reported that they had also been physically assaulted by that partner.

- Stalking acknowledgement and reporting among college women experiencing intrusive behaviors (2007)

- National Violence Against Women Survey (1998)
Stalking and Financial Crime

Identity Theft

- Charged items to credit card: 30%
- Took money from accounts: 52%
- Opened/closed accounts: 54%
How Might This Happen?
Technology That is Used to Perpetrate Crime
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cell Phone Spyware</th>
<th>Computer Spyware</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Listen to calls</td>
<td>Screen shots</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Email activity</td>
<td>Keystrokes typed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Online activity</td>
<td>Chat/IM activity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>View contact lists</td>
<td>Websites visited</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Read text messages</td>
<td>Online searches</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Activate speaker</td>
<td>Email activity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Locate</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Malware/Spyware for Tablets

Vulnerabilities

• Apps
• QR codes
• Downloaded files
• Aggressive ads
• Websites
Keystroke Logging Hardware

- Can be keyboard ports, special keyboards, or mouse
- No software to install or configure - just plug it in
- Need physical access to install & remove
Social Engineering Scams

• Play upon our emotions: sympathy, fear
• Manipulative
• Gather personal information from social media sites
  – Ransomware
  – Funeral fraud
  – Healthcare fraud
  – Credit card info
Social Networkers Beware: Facebook is a Major Phishing Portal

Phishing is big business for cyber criminals. They create emails, links and web pages designed to look wholly credible — usually by falsely assuming the identity of a reputable source — that prompt unsuspecting users to share sensitive personal data as a gateway to these criminals scoring a payday.

"Kaspersky Lab Research: 1 in 5 phishing scams targets Facebook"
Emails & Requests for Info.

Emails are not private or confidential

Potential for spyware: Never open attachments from unknown sources

Be wary of requests for information
SNS for Specific Communities

Meetups are neighbors getting together to learn something, do something, share something.

MyHeritage
Share your family tree and photos with the people you know and love.

Disabled United
Welcome to Disabled United
The Mobility Superstore provides a wide range of specialist equipment that is designed to give people mobility aids for independent living.

cafemom
Welcome to the Meeting Place for Moms.
Come in. Check out the conversations. Join a group. Ask a question. Have some fun!

The National Center for Victims of Crime
SaveAndInvest.org
FINRA Investor Education Foundation
What Information is out There?
Data Brokers & Personal Info.
1. Discontinue all engagement perpetrator(s)
2. Create a Case File
3. Know Your Rights
4. Report the Suspected Fraud
5. Consider Civil Remedies

Checklists at SaveAndInvest.org
ACTION STEPS FOR
Identity Theft

► Identity Theft Resource Center (ITRC) – 24/7 hotline 888-400-5530

► January 28, 2016, FTC announced significant enhancements to identitytheft.gov

► Free personalized identity theft recovery plan

► “One Stop Shop”

► Mobile and tablet accessible
ACTION STEPS FOR Identity Theft

FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION
IdentityTheft.gov

Enter What Happened  Personalized Recovery Plan  Put Plan into Action

ITRC – 24/7 Hotline 888-400-5530
Preventing Identity Theft

► Assume you have already been a victim
► Shred documents (diamond/cross shredder)
► Be wary of requests for personal info – even at doctor’s offices
► Use care with ATMs and card-skimming machines
► Monitor your credit reports
  ► www.AnnualCreditReport.com
► Prevention strategies
  ► File taxes early – if filing online, use a secure network; if by mail, drop directly at post office
New Resources

► Identitytheft.gov

► Victim Connect: 1-855-4-VICTIM
Taking Action

Order free copies of *Taking Action* and other resources from FINRA Foundation

www.SaveAndInvest.org/Partner-Toolkit
SAVE THE DATE

dec 5–7, 2017
portland, oregon

HELD IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE
NATIONAL CRIME VICTIM BAR ASSOCIATION
NATIONAL CONFERENCE, “CIVIL ACTIONS FOR CRIMINAL ACTS”

www.VictimsofCrime.org/Training
Questions?
Thank you!

Elaina Roberts, J.D.
Legal Director, Stalking Resource Center
eroberts@ncvc.org

Laura Cook, J.D.
Director, Financial Crime Resource Center
lcook@ncvc.org

For additional information and assistance:
202-467-8700
www.victimsofcrime.org/src