



HALL COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

CRIME PREVENTION UNIT



CRIME PREVENTION BULLETIN

DATE: June 22, 2010
SUBJECT: FBI SCAM ALERT

Recently a new twist on an email scam has been going around via email that has caused some concern. This one may appear in your inbox as though it's coming from the FBI, in some cases addressed from Robert S. Mueller himself, the current director of the FBI (I've personally been receiving these for about three weeks now). The second page of this bulletin contains the exact text of an email (poor grammar, misspelled words and all) that a citizen recently received.

Some of these messages mention the recipient's supposed financial transactions that involve- of all things- a Nigerian scam with terrorist organizations, and some even threaten the recipient with being arrested if they do not respond. That's pretty heavy stuff, so let's point out a few things.

- Generally speaking law enforcement agencies, the FBI in particular, won't send an email threatening to arrest a person. We typically show up in person with a handy little document called an arrest warrant. It's much more effective that way.
- Robert S. Mueller, as I mentioned, is *the Director* of the United States Federal Bureau of Investigation. He was nominated by the President and confirmed by Congress. That's a big job. Now, I don't know Mr. Mueller or what his daily routine is like, but I would imagine it consists of things such as briefing the President on matters of national security and overseeing the agency that's responsible for investigating major crimes and acts of terrorism, etc. I think it's safe to assume that's he's a little too busy to be sending me an email.
- Believe it or not, FBI agents don't use Yahoo mail for official correspondence.
- Once you click on a link or read the text of the email, it becomes clear that it's the same old scam. The underlying theme is that they want you to be the recipient of a large sum of money after paying them a smaller sum. That's the dead give-away for what's become universally referred to as the Nigerian scam. It comes in all colors, flavors, shapes and sizes, but that part doesn't change.

With all that said, the solution to this problem is simple: **JUST DELETE THE EMAIL!!!**

And please know that the Government is not planning a raid on your house at this very moment, complete with armored assault vehicles breaching the walls and black helicopters swooping in over the tree line, because you've been involved in financing terrorism via email. Unless of course you actually have...

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact:

Deputy Stephen Wilbanks
Crime Prevention Officer
Hall County Sheriff's Office
610 Main St. SW
Gainesville, GA 30501
770-533-7674
swilbanks@hallcounty.org

EXACT TEXT OF SCAM EMAIL RECENTLY RECEIVED BY A CITIZEN

From: "Kevin C Walker" <kelvin123@yahoo.com>

Date: June 21, 2010 10:27:41 AM EDT

Subject: Immediate response needed from you

Reply-To: <ben_bruce@efccofficemail.org>

This is a letter from the authorities. You are to go through this e-mail attachment immediately and get back to me so that we can resolve this pressing issue. If you don't get back to me within the next 24 hours you might be arrested.

I am waiting for you e-mail....

Internet crime division
FBI headquarters Washington DC
J. Edgar Hoover Building
935 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, D.C 20535

Attn:

I am agent Kevin C. Walker of the FBI and I head the internet crime division in Washington DC. We are specialized in handling critical internet crimes cases linked with well known terrorist organization. We have been monitoring your internet activities including your phone calls for some time now and it has come to our notice that you have been communicating with internet fraudsters from west Africa/Asia who are well known to have terrorist links/connection to **Islamic Jihad Group & Palestine Liberation Front** both from Palestine.

These are well known terrorist organization that has been targeting the United States of America for the past 5 years. We believe you have been assisting them deliberately for reasons unknown to us for now. We also have reasons to believe that a substantial amount of money was initially promised to you by corrupt Nigerian government officials, please be advised that you are to stop all communication with them immediately or you will be arrested within the next 48 hours by one of our agents.

Do you know that assisting terrorist organization is a federal offense which is punishable with a lengthy prison sentence of 35 years? Yes a very lengthy one if you do not change your perspective and work with us to resolve this issue immediately. Due to the high nature of this case we have made several arrest in some African countries especially in Nigeria and a lot of money belonging to **Islamic Jihad Group & Palestine Liberation Front** has been recovered. We are still going to make more arrest this coming week so I must advice you do not communicate with anymore corrupt government officials or we will arrest you in the process.

Since you were initially promised some money for your involvement in this high risk transaction and knowing you may have lost some money during the cost of the operation, the American government has

decided to use part of the recovered funds to compensate some individuals that meets our requirement with the sum of \$1.2 million but there are steps and procedures to be taken before you can qualify for this.

Firstly:

You are to contact Mr. Ben Bruce of the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission of Nigeria immediately through this e-mail: ben_bruce@efccofficemail.org. Mr. Ben Bruce is in New York right now working with the FBI and trying to put an end to all the mess and disgrace you have caused the country. When you contact him you are to state your:

- Full name
- Contact address
- Phone number

The above information would be used for verification purposes only. You can also call him through his cell number **914-401-1796** i.e. for those that will like to discuss further with him.

Secondly:

You will need to obtain a form 134D clearance certificate from the FBI office in New York which Mr. Ben Bruce will put you through on how to get it. You are also required to pay a fee of **\$400** for the processing of the document which is a small amount compared to what you have been spending for the past months and got absolutely nothing in return. It is mandatory you make this payment before the next 48 hours or full legal action would be taken against you.

Thirdly:

We will need you to send us a letter of guarantee assuring us that you will not use any part of your \$1.2 million to partake in any illegal activities especially by funding either **Islamic Jihad Group** or **Palestine Liberation Front**. If by any chance you go against this instruction, you may spend your remaining years behind bars. I am definitely sure you wont like that to happen to you.

Be warned you cannot fight your government. If by any chance you dont follow our instruction or give us any reason to suspect you, we will be forced to prosecute and take full legal action against you and I am sure you know what the outcome would be. Make sure you contact Mr. Ben Bruce immediately so that we can solve this problem immediately.

Kevin C. Walker
Internet Crime Division.