



# Department of the Treasury Financial Crimes Enforcement Network

November 4, 2011

## NOTICE

### **Alert – Recent Reports of Fraudulent 314(a) E-mails**

The Financial Crimes Enforcement Network (FinCEN) is reminding financial institutions to be alert to fraudulent e-mails.

FinCEN has been notified of a recent fraudulent e-mail purporting to be related to FinCEN's 314(a) Information Requests. The fraudulent e-mail appears to have been sent to various contacts at financial institutions. The e-mail purports to have been sent from "SYS314(a)@fincen.gov" and claims that there is a new posting to the "Secure Information Sharing System" in the subject line. When the message is opened, a link to a phony #####.COM website is displayed.

If your institution recently received such an e-mail, please be aware that it is fraudulent; FinCEN is currently addressing this matter. Please do not respond to these messages.

E-mail users should be wary of any unsolicited messages that purport to come from U.S. Government agencies asking them to provide sensitive information. The transmission of phony e-mail messages requesting confidential information is a practice known as "phishing." The perpetrator of a "phishing" scam attempts to trick the victim into revealing confidential information, which then is used for purposes of identity theft or other crimes.

Solicitations purporting to be from, or otherwise involving FinCEN should be reported to the FinCEN Office of Security at: (703) 905-5050 (Monday thru Friday, 8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.). Additionally, anyone who receives an e-mail of this nature may wish to file a complaint at [www.ic3.gov](http://www.ic3.gov).