FRAUDULENT TELEPHONE CALLS ALLOW FRAUDSTERS ACCESS TO CONSUMER FINANCIAL AND BROKERAGE ACCOUNTS

On June 21, 2010, the FBI released a warning to consumers concerning a new scheme using telecommunications denial-of-service (TDoS) attacks.

The FBI determined fraudsters compromised victim accounts and contacted financial institutions to change the victim profile information (i.e., e-mail addresses, telephone numbers, and bank account numbers).

The TDoS attacks used automated dialing programs and multiple accounts to overwhelm victims’ cell phones and land lines with thousands of calls. When victims answered the calls they heard dead air (nothing on the other end), an innocuous recorded message, advertisement, or a telephone sex menu. Calls were typically short in duration but so numerous that victims changed their phone numbers to terminate the attack.

These TDoS attacks were used as a diversion to prevent financial and brokerage institutions from verifying victim account changes and transactions. Fraudsters were afforded adequate time to transfer funds from victim brokerage and financial online accounts.

Protection from TDoS attacks and other types of fraud requires consumers to be vigilant and proactive. The FBI recommends the following guidelines for consumers to protect themselves:

- Implement security measures for all financial accounts by placing fraud alerts with the major credit bureaus if you believe they were targeted by a TDoS attack or other forms of fraud.
- Use strong passwords for all financial accounts and change them regularly.
- Obtain and review your annual credit report for fraudulent activity.

If you were a target of a TDoS attack, immediately contact your financial institutions and notify your telephone provider.
Thefts

07/01 Rosenstiel Medical Science Building
Employee reported that 10 bottles of reagent were missing from a secured storage container in an 8th floor lab.

07/03 Bascom Palmer Eye Institute
Physician left his iPhone on the counter in an exam room and it could not locate it when he returned.

07/05 UM Hospital
A visitor reported that an iPod was missing from her vehicle left in the parking garage 1st floor. There was no forced entry to the vehicle.

07/07 UM Hospital
Patient reported that $86.00 cash was missing from his wallet left in his 6th floor room when he was gone for treatment.

07/09 UM Hospital
Patient’s daughter reported that his Motorola cell phone was missing from the 11th floor room.

07/10 Rosenstiel Medical Science Building
Employee momentarily left a text book in an unsecured 8th floor lab. When they returned the book was gone.

07/11 UM Hospital
Employee reported that his bicycle left in the cafeteria break area was missing.

07/12 UM Hospital
Patient reported a wallet and pair of shoes was missing from an 8th floor room.

07/13 Clinical Research Building
Employee reported that a dollar bill, unknown amount of coins and a computer cable was missing from a shared work station on the 12th floor.

07/13 UM Hospital Parking Garage
Employee reported that he discovered the hub caps missing from his vehicle parked on the 4th level. 7/19 Security investigator identified the perpetrator, employee of a contractor. The items were returned and the employee was terminated. (Solved)

07/14 Clinical Research Building
Physician left a Dell laptop computer on a podium in a 9th floor conference room overnight. The item was gone the following morning. Security investigator discovered on 07/15 that the item had been locked in a closet by staff. (Solved)
07/15 **Clinical Research Building**
Administrator reported that various food items purchased for classes were missing from a secured closet in a 2nd floor office area.

07/20 **Bascom Palmer Eye Institute**
Employee reported that on 07/12 she locked a bicycle to the northwest corner of the entrance ramp. When she returned the bicycle was gone. Item valued at $120.00.

07/16 **UM Hospital**
Update: The perpetrator of the theft of a deposit bag from a ground floor department on 04/09 was identified as an employee. The employee was terminated, (Solved)

07/19 **Gautier Building**
Employee reported that the seat on their bicycle locked to the rack on the east side of the building was taken.

07/19 **JMH Holtz Center**
Employee reported that 12, HP black ink printer cartridges were missing from an unsecured cabinet in a 3rd floor office.

07/19 **Bascom Palmer Eye Institute**
Visitor reported that $5.00 from $15.00 left in their vehicle’s ashtray was missing when the vehicle was returned by the valet.

07/21 **UM Hospital Parking Garage**
Employee discovered the driver side door lock broken off and the radio had been removed. The vehicle was parked on the 5th level.

07/21 **ACC West JMH**
A student locked their bicycle and gym bag to a light pole on the south side of the building. The bike and bag was gone when the student returned. Items valued at $400.00.

07/21 **Fred Cowell Mall**
Student left their bicycle locked to the rack across from the Calder Library. When they returned the seat was missing.

07/22 **Gables One Tower**
Courier left van unlocked while making a pick up. Driver returned and discovered a bag containing $10 cash missing.

07/26 **UM Hospital**
Employee left her purse and another employee’s purse in a desk drawer in a 1st floor department. When the employees returned their wallets were missing. The wallets contained identification, credit cards, debit cards and checks.

07/26 **Sylvester Cancer Center**
Employee reported that a 3 foot Eiffel Tower replica was missing from a 2nd floor lab.

Security.med.miami.edu
07/27 Highland Professional Building
Employee reported that her wallet containing a debit card was missing from a secured desk drawer in a 3rd floor office.

07/29 Bascom Palmer Eye Institute
Employee reported leaving her purse in an unsecured 4th floor office. She discovered that her wallet was missing after returning from a break. Wallet contained credit cards and identification.

07/31 UM Hospital
Employee reported leaving her iPhone momentarily unattended at her workstation in a ground floor office. When she returned the item was gone.

07/31 Jackson Medical Towers Parking Garage
Security discovered a male removing license tags from vehicles. Miami Police responded and arrested the male.

**Assault**

07/26 UM Hospital and Clinics
A patient reported he approached a physician in the lobby to ask a question. The physician tapped him on the chest with their index finger while responding.

07/28 UM Hospital
A patient verbally threatened an employee in the lobby of a 1st floor suite. Miami Police responded to investigate the incident.

**Burglary**

None

**Vehicle Incidents**

07/07 14th Street Surface Valet Parking Lot
A faculty member’s vehicle was struck by a mango that fell from a nearby tree causing a crack in the right side of the windshield.

07/07 15th Street Garage
Student reported a dent on the driver’s side of his vehicle parked on the 3rd level. The vehicle parked next to the student’s appeared to have caused the dent.

07/09 UM Hospital Parking Garage
Employee’s vehicle was struck by a visitor’s vehicle backing up on the 5th level. There was minor damage and no injuries.

07/14 UM Hospital and Clinics Valet
Visitor reported damage done to his vehicle when left with the valet the day before.
07/21  **14th Street Garage**
Visitor discovered that the cover around the driver side door locked was cracked. The vehicle was parked on the 11th level.

07/23  **14th Street Garage**
Employee reported discovering damage to the right front of her vehicle parked on the 1st floor.

07/29  **14th Street Garage**
Employee reported finding minor damage to her vehicle parked on the 1st level.

07/29  **UM Hospital Parking Garage**
Physician reported finding minor damage to his vehicle that was parked on the 4th level.

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## Trespassers

07/07  **Sylvester Cancer Center**
Staff alerted security to a know trespasser in a 1st floor treatment area. Security responded and escorted the male out of the building.

07/08  **UM Hospital**
A male and female were attempting to use the 5th floor visitor's area to store their clothing and spend the night. The individuals were contacted and escorted out of the building.

07/09  **Rosenstiel Medical Science Building**
Security observed a male walking toward JMH on NW 16th Street with his pants around his ankles. Miami-Dade and Miami Police contacted the male and he left the area.

07/15  **Calder Library**
Security advised of a known trespasser loitering around the building. The male was contacted and escorted off the property.

07/16  **Calder Library**
Security called regarding a male requesting entry to look for his back pack. The male did not have ID and was turned away. Security could not locate the male.

07/21  **15th Street Garage**
Suspicious male was able to enter the lobby by following a female employee. The male got on the elevator with three employees and got off on the 5th floor. Security was notified and the male was observed walking away from the building when the security officer arrived.

07/28  **15th Street Garage**
Security observed a male on the northeast corner of the building talking loudly and uttering profanity. The male was escorted away from the building.
Security observed two juvenile males run into the food court then to the elevators. The juveniles were located on the 2nd floor and were attempting to sell candy. The juvenile’s parent was notified and responded to pick up the children.

**Escorts**

University of Miami Security Officers provided escorts to any place on campus, including Metrorail. We encourage you to use this service when walking alone and particularly after hours. Security Officers will meet you at your work location and escort you safely to your vehicle, Metrorail, or any other building on campus. Call 243SAFE (7233) to request an escort. You may be able to reduce your waiting time if you call a few minutes before you are ready to leave.

During July, security officers provided 116 escorts with an average waiting time of 3:43 minutes.

**General Information**

**FREE SECURITY SURVEYS or CRIME PREVENTION SEMINARS**

Conducted on an individual or group basis. To make an appointment or to request information, call Lee Michaud, Crime Prevention & Training Manager at 243-5084.

**CRIME TIP HOTLINE (243-6280)**

Caller can remain anonymous. All information kept confidential. Ask for Craig Hopkins, Investigator at 243-6280.