

Nevada State Board of Dental Examiners



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SPOOFING/PHISHING

November 3, 2020

FBI reports criminals in disguise are targeting healthcare providers with threats and phony investigations

According to a November 2, 2020 article from the National Law Review, a Liaison Information Report (“LIR”) was issued by the FBI’s Office of Private Sector on October 13, 2020, warning healthcare providers about a nationwide fraud scheme targeting them. Scammers contacted healthcare providers pretending to be from a state healthcare board, DEA, and/or the Department of Justice by telephone, e-mail, and mail according to the LIR. Sometimes the scammers would tell the healthcare provider that they are “under investigation” and would demand to be wired payment in order to avoid further action. The Nevada State Board of Dental Examiners does not ask any of its licensees for wire payments.

The scammer employed various schemes and tactics to make it appear that they were legitimate, such as “spoofing” actual phone numbers and email addresses of a state healthcare board or other legitimate governmental agencies. They would also provide details about the healthcare providers, such as license numbers, NPI numbers, dates of birth, full names and addresses in order to gain credibility with the healthcare provider.

As NSBDE has previously suggested, licensees should not provide any information over the phone, but instead should contact NSBDE to verify legitimacy of the caller. Be suspicious of any requests for wire payments, money, or other forms of payment regarding alleged investigations by NSBDE. You can direct any requests and questions to the private sector coordinator at your local FBI field office. The main FBI local field office is in Las Vegas and there are satellite offices (resident agencies) in Elko, Reno, and South Lake Tahoe.

According to the FBI's website, File a Report with the Internet Crime Complaint Center

To report spoofing or phishing attempts – or to report that you've been a victim – file a complaint with the FBI's [Internet Crime Complaint Center](#) (IC3). Crime reports are used for investigative and intelligence purposes. Rapid reporting can also help support the recovery of lost funds. Visit www.ic3.gov for more information, including tips and information about current crime trends.

Thank you.

The Nevada State Board of Dental Examiners