Money Services Businesses



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Value Touches Everything

Learning Objectives:

TLO: Describe the roles of Gatekeepers and the value to financial investigations.

ELO 1	Describe the role of remittance systems.
ELO 2	Explain the FinCEN process and oversight of MSBs.
ELO 3	Explain the process of MSB approval at the state level.
ELO 4	Explain the BSA regulations with regard to MSB reporting.
ELO 5	Describe the process of large money transmitters, small money transmitters, and hawala systems.
ELO 6	Explain the Southwest Border Record Analysis Center.

Training Purposes Only



The Value of Alternate Remittance

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Legitimate Purposes of Remittance OECD

- Pure altruism (concern for family back home)
- **?** Pure self-interest
- (Implicit family agreement: co-insurance and loan
- Migrant's saving target
- Portfolio management decisions

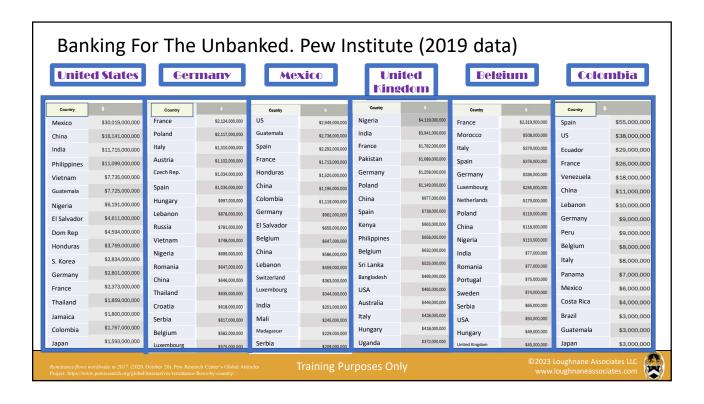
Always ask, "Why is the money going there?"



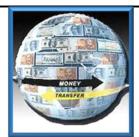


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Services – Remittance Transfer Systems



New Payment Product Systems (NPPS)

- Mobile payments (m-payments)
- Internet-based payment services (e-payments)
- Prepaid access products

Money transmission (or wire transfer)

- Western Union, MoneyGram
- Hawala
- Virtual assets (cryptocurrency)
- Money order products
- Currency exchange services
- Hand carried/courier

NPPS also known as Money Services Businesses (MSB), Value Transfer Systems and Designated Non-Financial Businesses and Professions (DNFBP)

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Money Services Businesses (Generally)

Acting as a Principal or Agent (may only work from one location or international)

- Banking Services for the Unbanked
- May support payments from diaspora to specific countries Example: Hawala system to Somalia
- Remittances sent abroad are usually in small amounts
- Examples:
 - Casas de Cambio
 - Foreign Exchange Houses Banques de Checks

 - Convertible Virtual Currency Exchanges aka Virtual **Asset Service Providers**





The MSB Registration Process





MSB Types

MSB KEY SERVICES LIST

(FinCEN)

- 401 Issuer of traveler's checks
- 402 Seller of traveler's checks
- 404 Issuer of money orders
- 405 Seller of money orders
- 408 Check casher
- 409 Money transmitter
- 413 Seller of prepaid access
- 414 Provider of prepaid access
- 415 Dealer in foreign exchange
- 499 Other

- Activity based not business based
- Money transmission (or wire transfer) services
- Fiat currency to/from Virtual Asset Service Providers (VASP)
- Money order products
- Check cashing services
- Traveler's check products
- Currency exchange services
- Reloadable cards and services
- Stored value products

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Federal MSB Registration MSB are required to register with Finces and the final formation of the final formation

Federal MSB Registration

Registrant Information

- Legal business name
- Doing Business As (DBA)
- Address, city, state, country
- Employer identification number
- Tax Identification number
- Social Security number
- · Email address
- Same for owner/controlling person
 - Identification: DL, Passport
 - · Alien Registration
- State(s)/Territories to operate



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Federal MSB Registration

- · Number of branches
- Type(s) of service
 - Include any "informal value transfer systems
 - Operation as a mobile operator
- · Number of "agents"
- · Identify bank accounts
- Supporting documentation
- · Authorized signatures

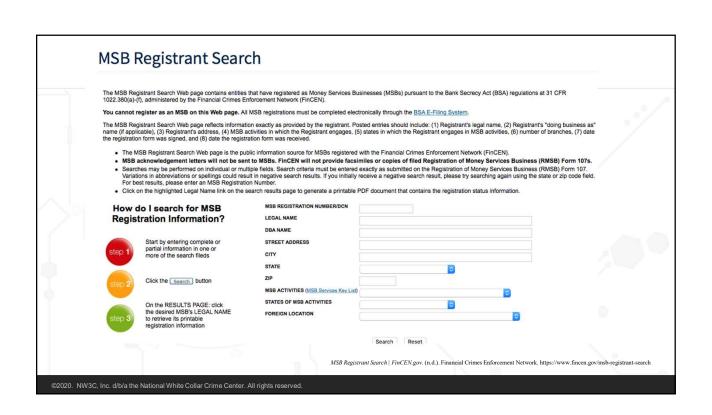


Part V	Primary Transaction Ac	count for MSB Activitie	s							
See inst The reg	gainset has more than one transaction a tructions for an explanation of the term "t estrant's primary transaction account is th i 31 through 36 enter information about the	ransaction account". e one that has the greatest annual o	tolar amount	of money	servi				ety.	
31 Name of	financial institution where the primary tra	neaction account is held								
22 Address	9			3	3 City	Š				
34 State	35 ZIPCode	36 Primary transaction account	number	1	1	ï	ii	1	1	
37 Address	ting documentation is kept at the U.S. loca	ison reported in Part II check here						_		_
38 City			39 State	40 25			1-1	1	1	
Part VII	Authorized Signature									
complete. I is CFR Plat Ch coming year.	ted to file this form on behalf of the money understand that the money services busin- upter X. The oxoney services busines to and all other information required to or person or authorized corporate offi	ess listed in Part II is subject to the B sted in Part II maintains a current list riply with 31 U.S.C. 5330 and the ri	ank Secrecy A of all agents,	ct and its an estro	s imple ate of	ment to bu	ing reg. siness v	Autio rolum	ns. S	ee 31 De
41 Signature		42 Print name								
43 Title		44 Date of sign	sture				_			

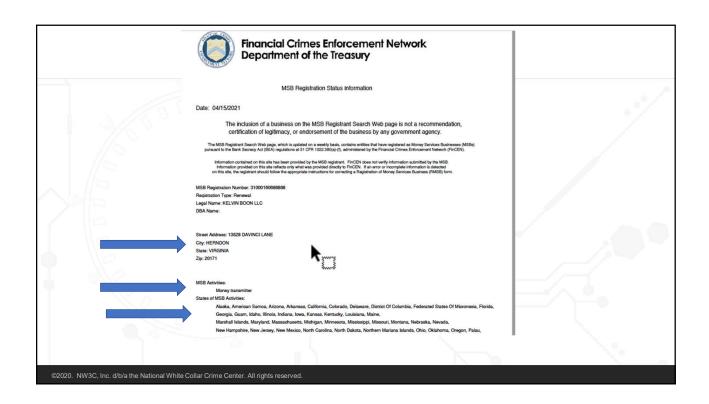
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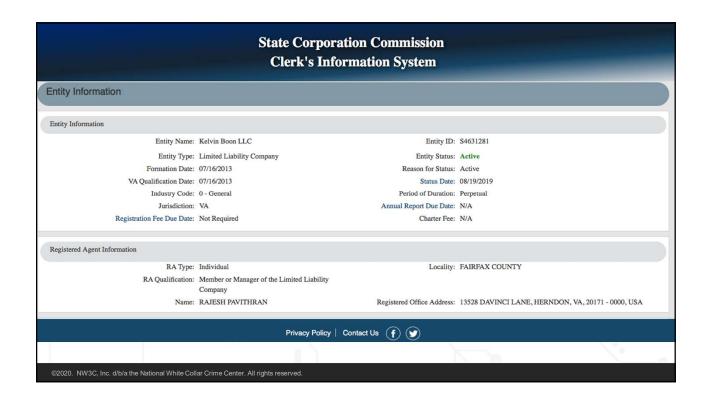


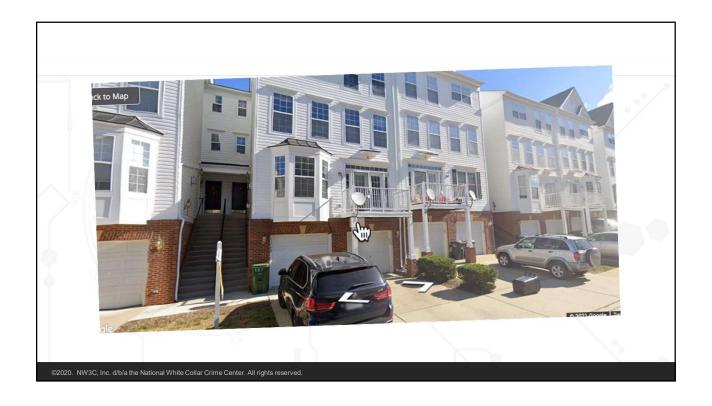




	LEGAL NAME	DBA NAME	STREET ADDRESS	CITY	STATE	ZIP	MSB ACTIVITIES	STATES OF MSB ACTIVITIES	ALL STATES & TERRITORIES & FOREIGN FLAG	FOREIGN LOCATION	# OF BRANCHES	AUTH SIGN DATE	RECEIVED DATE	
	AIV FINANCIAL LLC		1082 ELDEN ST	HERNDON	VA	20170	405 408 409	VA				11/26/2019	11/26/2019	
	DIANA'S BOUTIQUE & SERVICES, INC.		1110 ELDEN STREET, SUITE 103	HERNDON	VA	20170	405 408 409	VA				12/28/2020	12/28/2020	
	EFECTIVO SVC LLC	MUNDI TRANSFERS	690 ELDEN STREET	HERNDON	VA	20170	405 408 409	VA				01/05/2021	01/05/2021	
	KELVIN BOOM LLC		13528 DAVINCI LANE	HERNDON	VA	20171	409	AK AR AS AZ CA CO DC DE FL FM GA GU IA ID IL IN KS KY LA MA MD			1	12/28/2019	12/28/2019	
Herndon, Virginia								ME MH MI MN MO MP MS MT NC ND NE NH NJ NM NV OH OK OR PA PR PW RI SC SD TN TX UT VA VI WI WV						
viigiilia	MELGAR LLC	MEGA GIROS	690 ELDEN	HERNDON	VA	20170	408 409	WY VA				12/31/2020	12/31/2020	
	Mid-Atlantic Development Group, LLC		STREET 1141 Elden St. STE 102/103	Herndon	VA	20170	408 409	VA			2	02/07/2019	02/07/2019	
	Mid-Atlantic Development Group, LLC		1141 Elden St suite 102/103	Herndon	VA	20170	408 409	VA				03/28/2019	03/28/2019	
	Mid-Atlantic Development Group, LLC	Elden Market and Deli	1141 Elden St suitem 102/103	Herndon	VA	20170	408 409	VA				03/28/2019	03/28/2019	
	NOVEDADES K & J INC		794 C CENTER ST	HERNDON	VA	20170	408 409	VA				12/28/2020	12/28/2020	
	R.S. Associates Inc.	Herndon Check Cash	1110 F Elden St. Suite 109	Herndon	VA	20170	405 408 409	VA				12/20/2019	12/20/2019	
	RJKJ SONIDO LATINO INC		1110 ELDEN ST SUITE 105	HERNDON	VA	20170	405 408 409	VA				01/08/2021	01/08/2021	
	SFB CAPITAL SYSTEMS LLC	SPEEDY	1031 STERLING ROAD, SUITE 201	HERNDON	VA	20170	409	VA				12/05/2020	12/05/2020	
	VARIEDADES CRISTINA LLC		1228 ELDEN ST	HERNDON	VA	20170	408 409	VA				12/23/2020	12/23/2020	
	VARIEDADES RUBI INC		902 ALABAMA DR #104	HERNDON	VA	20170	408 409	VA				12/28/2020	12/28/2020	
								- 13						7







Civil and Criminal Penalties for Operating an Unregistered Money Transmitting Business (FinCEN)

Failure to comply with 31 U.S.C. 5330 or 31 CFR 103.41

Civil penalty of \$5000 for each violation, up to \$5,000 for each day

(Whoever) (knowingly) (conducts, controls, manages, supervises, directs, or owns all or part) of (an unlicensed money transmitting business)

Shall be fined in accordance with this title or imprisoned not more than 5 years, or both. [18 U.S.C § 1960(a)]

Criminal: A (money transmitting business) which affects (interstate or foreign commerce) and (fails to comply with the money transmitting business registration requirements under section 31 U.S.C. 5330), or regulations prescribed under such section,

Shall be fined or imprisoned not more than 5 years, or both. [18 U.S.C § 1960(b)(1)(B)]

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Foreign-Located Money Services Businesses FIN-2012-A001 (February 15, 2012)

If the MSB operates in the US, even if none of its agents, agencies, branches or offices are physically located in the U.S.:

- Subject to the same civil and criminal penalties for BSA violations
- Each foreign-located MSB is required to appoint a person residing in the U.S. as an agent for service of legal process with respect to compliance with the BSA and its implementing regulations

LEGAL NAME	DBA NAME	STREET ADDRESS	CITY	STATE	ZIP	MSB ACTIVITIES*		ALL STATES & TERRITORIES & FOREIGN FLAG**		# OF BRANCHES	AUTH SIGN DATE	RECEIVED DATE
FINANCIERA PAGOS INTERNACIO NALES S.A./PAGOS INTERN		CL 5 50 103	CALI		76004		AS FM GU MH MP PR PW VI	CD	COLOMBIA		03/19/2019	03/19/2019

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FinCEN Documentation Requirements

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MSB BSA Recordkeeping And Reporting Requirements Vary

Based upon the type and amount of MSB activity

- Transmitter below \$3,000 no real verification is required
- At \$3,000, Transmitter is required to maintain/retain more detailed transaction records
- Currency Exchange at \$1,000, requires detailed information retention
- At \$10,000, all must file a CTR
- SAR filings are required

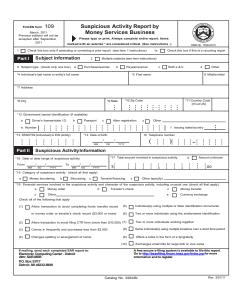


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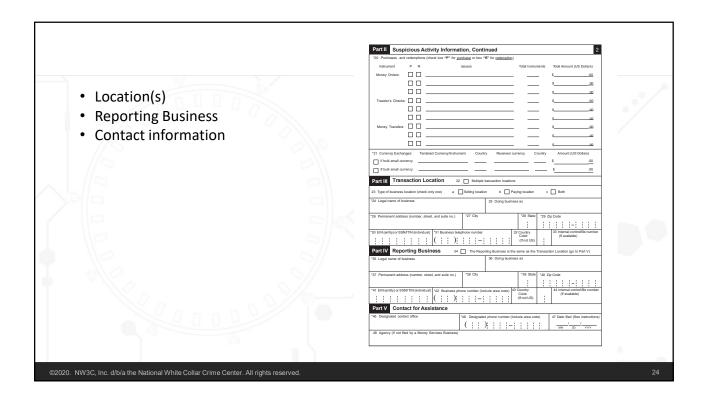
SAR Form For MSBs

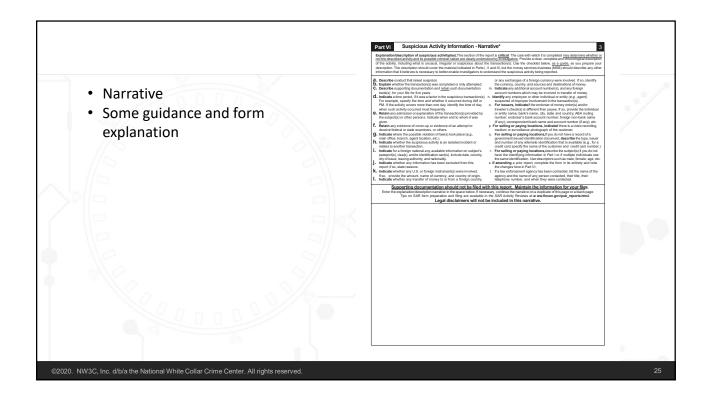
- Subject information
- Purchaser/Sender, Payee/Receiver
- Standard KYC information
- Government issued ID
- Suspicious Activity Details
- Date, Amount
- Category
- Financial Services Involved
- Nature (behavior) in activity



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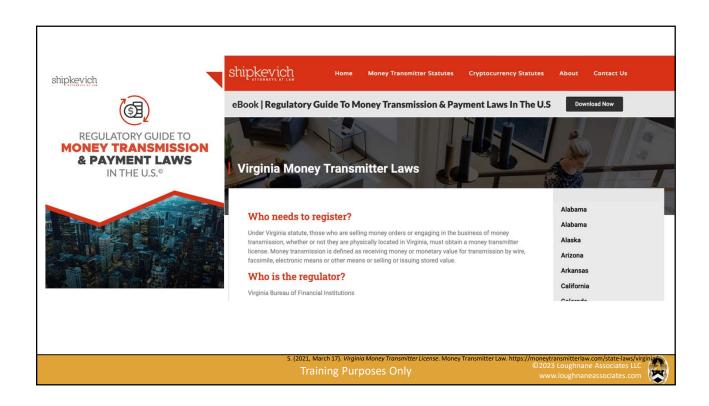
Typical Applicant Information

- Audited financial statements of the applicant business and any subsidiaries
- · Personal financial records of all directors, principal officers, owner or 10% shareholders ("Control Persons")
- Records of occupations for all Control Persons for the last fifteen years, including any disciplinary actions taken by any employer
- against any Control Person in the last fifteen years
- Comprehensive compliance policy AML/KYC

- Compliance Officer
- IT infrastructure
- Proforma and financial projections over 2-3 year period
- Source of funds
- Banking relationship
- Bonding
- List of all lawsuits or criminal complaints Third-party criminal and civil background checks
 - Fingerprints of Control Persons

S. (2021. March 17). Virginia Money Transmitter License. Money Transmitter Law. https://moneytransmitterlaw.com/state-laws/virginia





Virginia

Chapter 19 of Title 6.2 of the Code of Virginia requires the licensing of persons wishing to engage in the business of selling money orders or providing money transmission services to any consumer residing in the Commonwealth of Virginia, whether or not the person has a location in the Commonwealth.

Nationwide Licensing System Resource Center (NMLS)



Who Is Required to Have This License in VA?

- · Any person who engages in the business of selling money orders or providing money transmission services to a resident of the Commonwealth of Virginia, whether or not the money order seller or money transmitter has a location in the Commonwealth.
- Who Is Not Required to Have This License?
 - 1. The United States, or any department, instrumentality or agency thereof;
 - 2. Any state, or any department, instrumentality, agency, locality, municipality, or political subdivision
 - 3. Any bank, trust company, savings institution, or credit union operating under the laws of the United States or any state or territory thereof, or other person to the extent the person provides money transmission services as an agent of one or more banks, trust companies, savings institutions, or credit unions operating under the laws of the United States or any state or territory thereof;
 - 4. Any private security services business, licensed under § 9.1-139, that transports or offers to transport money;
 - 5. Any entity that has been explicitly designated in a written agreement as an agent of any governmental authority or unit identified in subdivision 1 or 2, provided that any funds collected by the agent shall be deemed for all purposes to be received by the governmental authority or unit; or 6. Any authorized delegate of a licensee.



Some (not all) that is needed for VA

- Submission of Company Form
- · Financial Statements (audited)
- If a start-up, audited beginning balance sheet showing \$200,000 net worth
- Authorized Agents (Delegates)
- Locations (branches)
- · Other Trade Name/Forced Trade Name
- · Registered Agent
- Primary Contact Employees
- Non-Primary Contact Employees
 - Accounting, Exam Billing, Licensing, Consumer Complaint (Public), Exam Delivery, Litigation, Consumer Complaint (Regulatory) Legal, Pre-Exam Contact
- · Approvals and Designations (FinCEN confirmation number
- Credit Reports
- Criminal History Checks
- Surety Bond **

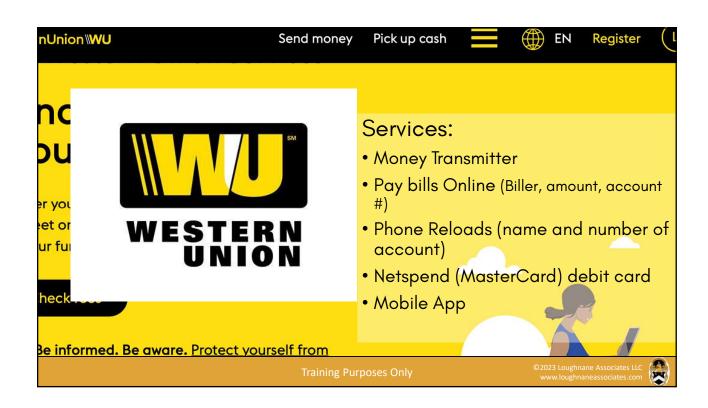
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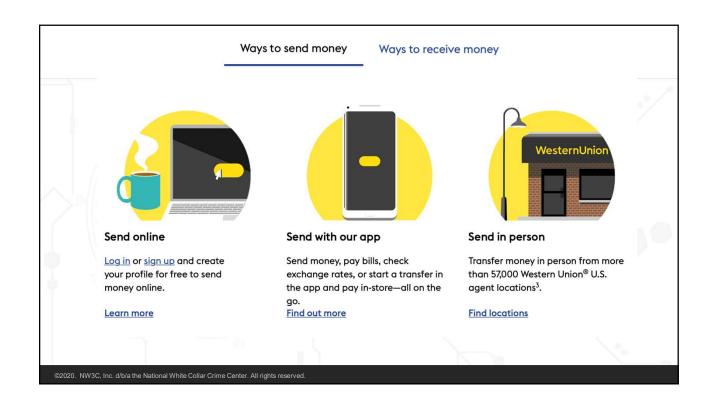
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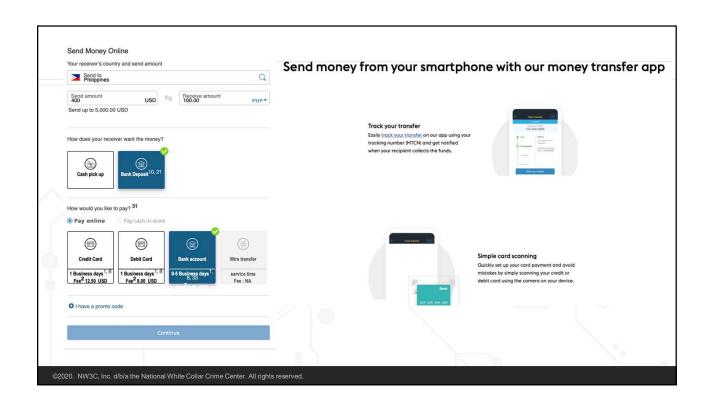
Large Money Transmitters

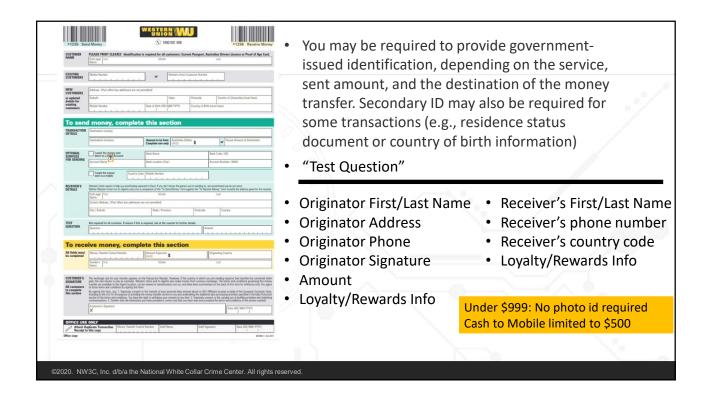
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Western Union Subpoenas

A. Service and Processing of Subpoenas from federal, state and local law enforcement agencies in the United States requesting records relating to money transfers or money orders must name "Western Union Financial Services, Inc." and may be served by emailing a signed PDF copy of the subpoena to subicw@westernunion.com OR mailing them to:

Western Union Financial Services, Inc. Custodian of Records Legal – HQ 8 7001 E Belleview Ave Denver, CO 80237

Western Union does not accept service of subpoenas via facsimile.

All subpoenas must be accompanied by the full name, title, mailing address, email address, phone number and facsimile number of the person and/or entity issuing the subpoena

Full name, title, mailing address, email address, phone number and facsimile number of the person to whom documents should be sent.

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MoneyGram Subpoena

- 1.1. U.S. Law Enforcement must serve their Request on **MoneyGram Payment Systems, Inc.** and may be e-mailed to: Subpoena@moneygram.com
- 1.2. While e-mail is preferred, MoneyGram also accepts service from U.S. Law Enforcement by facsimile (866) 955-6406 or by mail to:

MoneyGram Payment Systems, Inc.

Subpoena Operations 1550 Utica Avenue South Minneapolis, MN 55416

1.3. MoneyGram's U.S. Law Enforcement contact phone number: +1 (952) 541-4070

MoneyGram (Legal Agreement)

Single Maximum: \$10,000 Two Transfers/Day Maximum

- 2.4. In order to use the Service, the Sender must set up a profile through our Website or the App ("**Profile**"). The Sender is required to update their personal information contained in the Profile in case of any changes before making a Transfer. To close a Profile please contact our customer service helpline.
- 5.3. To collect the Receive Amount, the intended Recipient will be asked to identify themselves by providing an identification document and their own details, the Sender's name, country of origin, the Receive Amount and the Reference Number ("Collection Details"). Cash payment shall be made to the person that our agents and partners deem entitled to receive the Receive Amount after examination of the identification document. The identification requirements for Recipients vary by country.

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Records for Subpoena Network And/Or Agent

- Verify if the scope includes any agents
- Electronic Wire Transfer Data
- Copies of MoneyGram Money Orders
- Original Send and Receive Forms
- Money Order Transaction Logs
- Currency Transaction Reports
- Communications and emails with agents
- Suspicious Activity Reports and Support Records
- AML Compliance Program
- Other



Smaller Money Transmitters

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Smaller Payment Services

Transactions more than \$550 should be made in Personal, Official, or Cashier's check

Official checks should not be more than \$3,000

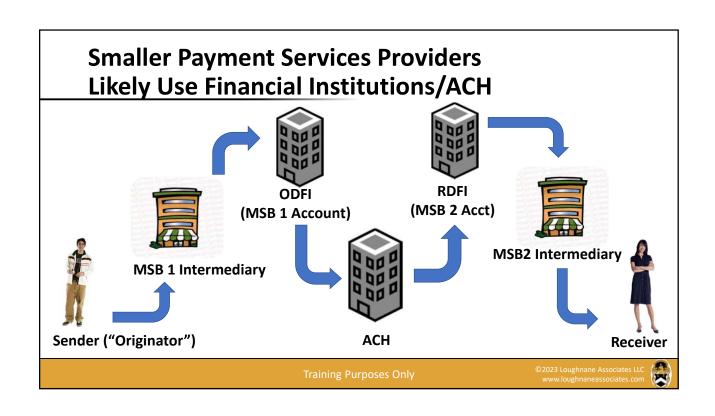
Banks

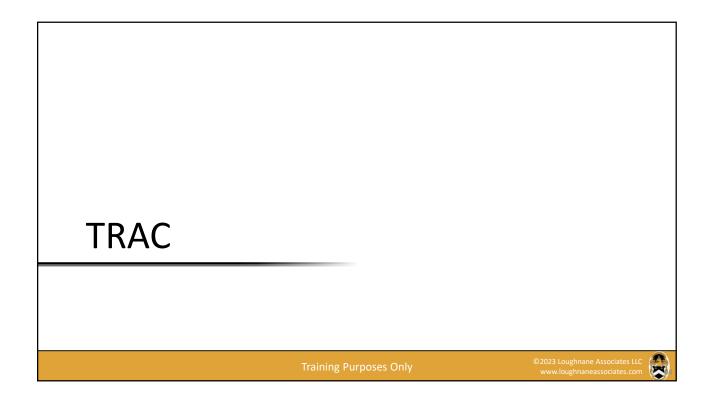
The Reputable Money Transmitter in the U.S. Welcome to First African Remittances An Authorized Delegate of Shaka Express Corp. Transmitting Money To Ghana and Other African Countries From Maryland CASH TRANSACTION: Transactions more than \$550.00 should be made in Personal, Official or Cashier's check. CHECK TRANSACTION: Personal, Cashier's or Bank Official checks should not be more than \$3,000.00 for the transmitted amount. Maryland Address 3321 Toledo Terrace, #202 Hyattsville, Maryland 20782 Tel: (301) 853-7245, 301-853-7246 Email: info@firstafricanremittancesus.com WORKING HOURS: Monday - Friday 10:00 am to 6:00 pm Saturday 10:00 am to 6:00 pm Saturday 10:00 am to 2:00 pm Sunday closed

PAYMENT LOCATIONS OR PICKUP BANKS

Access Bank, Agricultural Development Bank (ADB), First Atlantic Bank, ECO Bank and OmniBSIC Bank

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Southwest Border Transaction Record Analysis Center

- "Data is just that, its data...How you use it in conjunction with your other investigative resources, then it becomes intelligence."
 - Rich Lebel, director of the Southwest Border Transaction Records Analysis Center (2020)



Transaction Record Analysis Center Intelligence Report TRAC Data System-User Interface

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The TRAC Data System

- Transactions in amounts of \$500 or more.
- Person to Person transactions (not commercial) in identified Southwest Border Area:
 - California
 - Arizona
 - New Mexico
 - Texas
 - Country of Mexico

The **TRAC Data System** is a centralized searchable database containing subpoenaed financial transactions (money transfers) from several global money services businesses (MSBs).



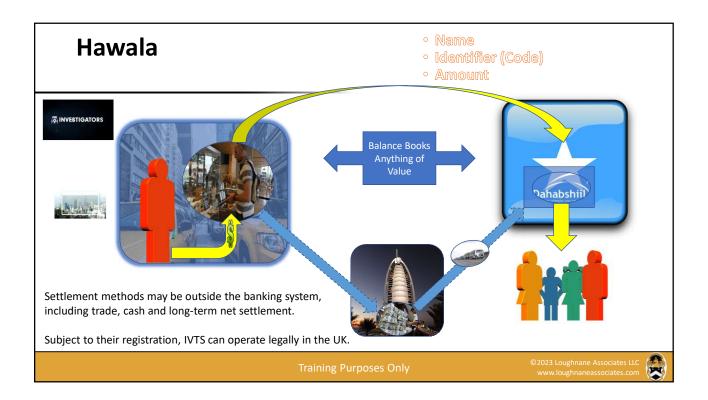
Transaction Record Analysis Center Intelligence Report TRAC Data System-User Interface

Portal: https://www.swbtrac.com

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Hawala Training Purposes Only ©2023 Loughnane Associates LC www.loughnaneassociates.com



Currency Dealers And Exchanges

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Currency Dealers Or Exchangers

- Provides many of the services of a bank or other financial institutions
 - Funds transmission, check cashing, money orders, temporary custody of funds on deposit
 - "Retail" "Over the Counter" "Vault"
- BSA requires maintenance of information concerning currency dealing starting at \$1,000





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Information Maintained For Exchanges Over \$1000

- Customer's name and address
- Passport number or Taxpayer Identification Number
- Date and amount of the transaction
- Currency name, country, and total amount of each foreign currency







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Check Cashers, Money Orders, Mobile Banking, and ATMs

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Check Cashers





- Defined as a person engaged in the business of cashing checks
- Other Services In many cases, the check casher acts as an agent of a money transmitter (or several money transmitters for different services, e.g., remittances, bill paying, and sale of money orders) to complement check cashing services

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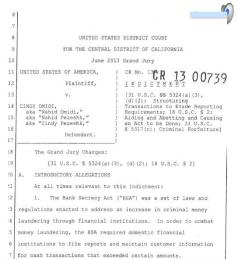


Money Orders/Traveler's Checks

- A Seller or Redeemer of Money Orders/Traveler's Checks is a MSB
- These are negotiable instruments sold through Sales Agents
- Generally issued by national companies, but small businesses may issue their own money orders
- Money orders are sold through agents
 - ➤ Amount is usually limited by policy
 - ➤ Sales Agent must maintain sales record
- √ Money Orders: Postal 70% of US Market \$165 billion in 2014

Money Order USPS Case Study: Cindy Omidi

- · Cindy Omidi, 66
- · Convicted in October 2014 of structuring
- Mother to Michael and Julian Omidi, once operated 1-800-GET-THIN
- USPS provided evidence to this case testified at trial

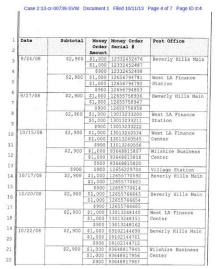


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Detail Of Money Order Purchase



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