

We have had several reports of attempts to steal contractor's banking information. Please review the attached fax for an example of the fraudulent letter. No legitimate transportation agency will **ever** ask you for banking account numbers.

Scott Bickford
Contracts & Specifications Engineer
Maine Department of Transportation
State House Station #16
Augusta, Me. 04333-0016
(207) 624-3533
Fax (207) 624-3431

-----Original Message-----

From: McDonnell, Jim [mailto:jimm@ashto.org]
Sent: Tuesday, February 27, 2007 1:57 PM
To: SCOH; SCOH - Construction; SCOH - Design; SCOH - Maintenance; SCOH - Systems Operation and Management; SCOH - Bridges & Structures
Cc: Basso, Jack; Kane, Tony; Yakowenko, Jerry
Subject: Fraudulent letters regarding the Central Contractor Registration System

FYI – Below is a notice from FHWA regarding fraudulent letters that are being sent out to contractors requesting confidential information to verify accounts with the Federal Government's Central Contractor Registration System. **Please be on the look-out for scams such as this and report any suspicions to the DOT Inspector General's Hotline at 1-800-424-9071.**

Jim McDonnell, P.E.
Associate Program Director, Engineering
American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials
444 North Capitol Street NW, Suite 249
Washington, DC 20001

Phone: 202-624-5448
Fax: 202-624-5469
e-mail: jimm@ashto.org

We received a notification of yet another round of fraudulent letters regarding the Federal Government's Central Contractor Registration System. See Mr. Waltos's email below and the attached sample letter recently received by a firm in Iowa.

We first received notification of this scam in April 2003.

Gerald Yakowenko, P.E.
Contract Administration Group
Office of Program Administration, HIPA-30
Federal Highway Administration
Room 3134
400 7th Street, SW
Washington DC 20590
Phone: 202-366-1562

Fax: 202-366-3988
Gerald.Yakowenko@dot.gov

From: Waltos, Frank <FHWA>
Sent: Monday, February 26, 2007 3:15 PM
To: HAAMALLCONTRACTORS; HAAMALLFEDS; HAAMCOTRS
Subject: FW: FYI-Alert!

Please inform your contractors every chance you get.

FRAUDULENT LETTERS

Attention all DOT current or potential contractors and all contracting personnel

There has been another round of fraudulent letters issued to current U. S. Department of Transportation (DOT) contractors and potential contractors purporting to be issued by DOT. These fraudulent letters request that current or potential contractors register in the DoD Central Contractor Registration System (CCR). Please be aware that DOT does not require any confidential information to be submitted to verify CCR registration and that all companies should verify personally that they are sending information to an authorized DOT official before submitting confidential company information.

The latest letters have been dated **December 19th, 2005 signed by "Frank M. Orell", February 8, 2006 signed by "Randy Cohen" and April 27, 2006, July 28, 2006 signed by "Dan Jacobs", November 8, 2006 and February 26, 2007 signed by "Lisa Johnson" as the Senior Procurement Officer.** Please **DO NOT** complete the requested CCR worksheet that is attached to the letter and **DO NOT** release any information to the facsimile number cited in the letter.

The CCR is a legitimate government system, however to register contractors should go directly through the CCR website not through a third party. There is no requirement to send information directly to DOT. For information on how to register in the CCR, please visit website www.ccr.gov or <http://www.ccr.gov/index.cfm>.

The point of contact concerning these fraudulent letters is the Department of Transportation Office of the Inspector General Hotline at 1-800-424-9071.

BRIAN



U.S. Department of Transportation
Procurement Office

400 Seventh St., S.W.
Washington, DC 20590
www.dot.gov

Van Hauen & Associates Inc
Drawer 71456
Clive, IA 50325

February 26, 2007

Dear Sirs,

Our records show that you are currently registered as a prospective contractor for procurements issued by the U.S. Department of Transportation. However after reviewing your record we have noticed that you have not submitted your financial information release form.

Your financial institution's privacy policy may not allow it to release your financial information even to government institutions without your consent; therefore we must have such form on file before we can move on with any procurement decisions.

In March 2007, the procurement plan for the second semester of 2007 will be finalized. To be eligible for procurement with the U.S. Department of Transportation, you must submit the abovementioned form to us by fax at 202-403-3395.

Please make sure your fax is preceded by a cover page so we may correctly identify your company.

Sincerely yours,

Lisa Johnson,
Senior Procurement Officer

Authorization to release financial information

Bank name: _____

Branch phone: _____ Branch fax: _____

Bank contact: _____

Operating account number: _____

Bank ABA: _____

We hereby authorize Department of Transportation to obtain financial information on our accounts held at your bank.

Signing officer 1

Signing officer 2

Signature _____

Signature _____

Printed name _____

Printed name _____

NOTE: IF MORE THEN ONE SIGNATURE IS REQUIRED ON ACCOUNT, MAKE SURE BOTH BANK SIGNING OFFICERS SIGN THE FORM

FORMS FAXED WITHOUT A COVER PAGE WILL NOT BE PROCESSED