Federal Election Commission
Office *of the* Inspector General

FEC OIG FRAUD ALERT 2027-01

Impersonation of Federal Election Commission Procurement Official

It has come to the FEC OIG's attention that a malicious actor is targeting government contractors by impersonating an FEC procurement official. In the scheme, an individual sends an email to a vendor identifying themselves as the FEC Acting Director of Procurement in order to fraudulently obtain computer equipment.

How the Scheme Works:

- **Initial Contact:** The government vendor receives an email that purports to be from an FEC official. In this case, the impersonated official is the FEC Acting Director of Procurement. The email uses the domain address "@fecgov.us".
- **Fraudulent Request:** The email contains an attachment with a fictitious request for quote/proposal (RFQ/RFP) form featuring the FEC seal and FEC address. The email solicits a quote for computer equipment, with the goal of eventually having the vendor ship computer equipment to a non-governmental address, such as a warehouse. The request is usually for computer equipment worth between $60,000 to $120,000.
- **Red Flags:** The RFQ/RFP and email have several red flags suggesting the solicitation is fraudulent, including:
    - The listed contact phone number for the FEC's Acting Procurement Director is incorrect.
    - The RFQ/FRP contains a quote number. Normally, there would not be a quote number if the agency is requesting the quote.
    - The solicitation email originates from a non-governmental email address in the "from" line.

What Should You Do?

- If you have received such an email, please do not respond to the email. Instead, please report the incident immediately to the OIG, either through our hotline (www.fec.gov/oig) or by calling 202-694-1015 between the hours of 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Eastern Time.
- Additionally, in the future, be sure to verify the authenticity of a suspicious solicitation by contacting the FEC Procurement Office directly before responding. You can contact them by emailing Procurement@fec.gov.

Additional Resources

- General Services Administration OIG – Fraud Alert: Fake Government Requests for Quotes
- General Services Administration – How SAM.gov Scams Target Small Businesses
- Federal Bureau of Investigation – Spoofing and Phishing