Warning: Scam service mis-using the name and credentials of "Artemis Insolvency Services Limited"

A fake website, together with telephone calls and follow up letters are being actively used to impersonate services from the firm "Artemis Insolvency Services Limited" - in relation to supposed insolvency investigations and prosecutions of a number of different historical financial scam companies.

What is the scam?

Members of the public have received calls from someone claiming to be working for "Artemis Insolvency Services Limited" and stating that they are carrying out investigations for the purpose of prosecuting and recovering financial losses from firms where financial scams previously took place and defrauded clients. The calls are then followed up with letters and non-disclosure agreements as well as requests for personal or other documents - the caller claims to be investigating a number of different scam firms (depending on which one the client was connected with) and the named scam firm may have previously been wound up by the Insolvency Service or have warnings listed on the FCA website - but may not necessarily have had formal proceedings yet.

The website is http://www.artemisinsolvencyserviceslimited.com and uses the email "info@artemisinsolvencyserviceslimited.com' as well as a telephone number 01305 300 264 - neither of these are associated with the genuine Artemis Insolvency Services Limited.

The website also claims to have authorisation/membership of the IPA and R3 by using the affiliated logos of the organisations also clearly displayed on the website.

The fraudster has stolen the company identity and company credentials of a Licensed Insolvency Practitioner and her genuine small consultancy firm which ordinarily does not market online or engage with members of the public directly but only works on a private consultancy basis for insolvency firms. (see below).

Any business or transactions through this impersonator as set out above are not undertaken by a firm or individual authorised and regulated by the IPA or connected whatsoever with "Artemis Insolvency Services Limited".

The genuine firm or person?

The IPA authorises and regulates a genuine Licensed Insolvency Practitioner known as Antoinette Thorpe, who is a Principal/Director of the firm: "Artemis Insolvency Services Limited", which has a registered office in Dorset but does not have a trading premises or marketing presence online and currently does not engage with members of the public directly through this firm but only provides business consultancy.

The genuine firm and the genuinely licensed insolvency practitioner/Director of "Artemis Insolvency Services Limited" has alerted the FCA, Action Fraud and the individual clients or client representatives as well as news media outlets about these fake service offerings involving the mis-use of the company details of Artemis. The website, calls and letters appear to be part of a 'recovery room' scam and multiple

firms appear to be involved and several other genuine insolvency/legal practices may have been 'cloned' or had their company ID stolen as part of the broader scam.

The impersonator claims to be investigating firms as follows, but there may be others used also:

Evergreen Solutions London Capital and Finance Thorn Medical Plc The Property Partnership (aka Ultraclass Ltd) BCG Wealth Group

What Should You Do?

When a firm's or individual's identity has been copied exactly (or cloned) it is very difficult to spot this initially and due diligence is necessary and a major priority. If you receive calls or correspondence claiming to be from the above firms or individuals/companies claiming that they are acting to investigate or prosecute a firm who has been involved in a financial scam/fraud, or claims of a similar nature to that described, you should conduct your own due diligence by checking the authenticity of the contact/correspondence by contacting the firm directly and asking for company director ID validation and by using other reliable and established means such as Companies House information to validate Director names - or you can trace firms through business and marketing channels such as "LinkedIn" for company/personnel profiles and to ask other firms for references.

You can contact the IPA to find out if individuals or firms are regulated and authorised by the IPA and verify an individual or firm practice details or check on the Insolvency Service website for practitioner details and their contact details to speak to them directly. Other verification methods, such as checking public records (e.g. telephone directories and company records) may be required in some circumstances in order to speak to someone other than the person that called you - it is important not to take the content of a website at face value as these details could be mostly genuine in terms of company registration number details, ICO registration number or registered address details and you should also ways go elsewhere to validate whomever appears to 'regulate' the firm or ask to speak to the insolvency practitioner directly and ask for their licence details.