

OFAC UPDATES AND CYBERSECURITY AWARENESS

In light of current world events, it is important for the title industry to be aware of ongoing developments. Recent sanctions against Russian entities and individuals, cybersecurity threats, and continued wire fraud risk continue to warrant our attention.

OFAC Updates - The US Department of the Treasury's Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC) administers and enforces US economic and trade sanctions programs against targeted foreign governments, individuals, groups, and entities. Following the Russian invasion of Ukraine, OFAC updated its Specially Designated Nationals and Blocked Persons List (SDN) to include certain individuals and entities with ties to Russia and the Kremlin. The list of sanctioned Russians has expanded to include hundreds of members of Russian Parliament.

Agents conducting OFAC searches should take care to search against the most current OFAC SDN List. The SDN List can be accessed at <https://sanctionssearch.ofac.treas.gov/> and via the FNF Agency website by clicking on the [FNF Applications](#) menu.

Cybersecurity Threats and Wire Fraud - The US government has warned of heightened risk of malicious cyber activity against businesses in the United States in retaliation for US actions in response to Russia's invasion of Ukraine. In a statement released earlier this week, President Biden urged the private sector to harden its cyber defenses immediately. [Click to see White House Fact Sheet.](#)

FNF Agency's February 28, 2022, email entitled "ALERT - New Cybersecurity Flyer and Guide & existing STOP Fraud Flyer" identifies proactive steps businesses can take to protect against cybersecurity risk. FNF Agency's updated [Cybersecurity Webpage](#) provides additional resources agents can use to assess and enhance their cybersecurity and wire fraud prevention programs.

