

**ALIAAlert: Fake HSBC Financial
Emails**



An insured lawyer was contacted by an individual who identified himself as "Allen", and claimed to be a Manager at HSBC Financial. The individual stated that a questionnaire had

been sent to the insured lawyer and as a result of the lawyer not completing the questionnaire, the lawyer's accounts would be frozen until the lawyer's account information was provided to the individual.

The insured lawyer did not disclose any account information to the individual on the incoming call, and instead contacted the HSBC branch directly. HSBC advised that no one on behalf of HSBC made the call and it appeared to be an attempt to obtain unauthorized account information. HSBC further indicated that they do not block calls so their telephone number and caller ID should be readily available on incoming calls.

Action to be taken:

Lawyers should not provide any account information in response to an unsolicited incoming call or email; financial institutions will not seek personal/account information over the phone or email. If you receive this type of call, contact your financial institution with phone numbers, email addresses or web links that you know to be accurate and trusted.

The Alberta Lawyers Insurance Association (ALIA) provides the ALIAAlert service to all Alberta lawyers participating in the indemnity program. ALIA does not independently confirm the facts or allegations provided to us. If you believe that you have been targeted by potential fraudulent activity, please [Contact ALIAAlert](#).