



REMI: Investigation into Suspicious Financial Transfers, Money Laundering, and Fraudulent Schemes

Overview of Findings

This report details the chain of events uncovered in a forensic audit of multiple accounts and entities associated with suspected money laundering and financial misappropriation. A pattern of structured transactions, unregistered shell companies, and unauthorized transfers points to a coordinated scheme involving both internal and external actors.

Primary Suspects:

- **Ethan Caldwell** – CFO of Stellar Investments LLC
- **Rachel Lin** – Financial Controller at Stellar Investments LLC
- **Blue Haven Ventures Ltd.** – Offshore entity in Nassau, Bahamas

Chain of Events and Key Findings

1. Initial Suspicious Activity – April 10, 2024

Account Number: 0023456789, **MetroBank, Chicago, IL**

On April 10, 2024, an initial transaction of **\$350,000** was flagged in **Account Number 0023456789**, held by **Stellar Investments LLC** at MetroBank in Chicago, IL. The transaction was processed as a wire transfer to **Blue Haven Ventures Ltd.** in Nassau, Bahamas. REMI's forensic algorithms identified this as an anomaly due to its value, offshore destination, and lack of a documented business purpose.

2. Structured Transfers and Account Layering – April 11–15, 2024

Geo-Location: New York, NY; Nassau, Bahamas; Hong Kong SAR

Over the next five days, **Ethan Caldwell**, using his financial privileges, initiated multiple structured transactions from **Account Number 0023456789** to **Blue Haven Ventures Ltd.** and **Silver Crest Holdings**, a suspected shell company based in **Hong Kong**. Transactions ranged from **\$25,000** to **\$95,000**, appearing designed to avoid AML reporting thresholds.

Pattern Identified: REMI detected a layering pattern, with funds being swiftly transferred through intermediary accounts at **Zenith Bank in New York, NY** before reaching the final offshore accounts. This structure is consistent with common money laundering techniques intended to obscure the funds' origin.

3. **Involvement of Internal Personnel – April 16, 2024**

Subject: Rachel Lin, Financial Controller

Evidence indicates that **Rachel Lin** provided administrative overrides on **Account Number 0023456789** and **Account Number 9876543210** (linked account), bypassing standard multi-approval protocols. These overrides allowed Caldwell to execute high-value transactions without the compliance department's usual scrutiny. Further, Lin's email communications show she approved these transfers under the guise of "expedited client investments."

4. **Increased Volume of Suspicious Transactions – April 17, 2024**

Shell Companies: Blue Haven Ventures Ltd. (Nassau, Bahamas), Silver Crest Holdings (Hong Kong SAR)

On April 17, Caldwell and Lin authorized an additional **\$500,000** in transfers across multiple accounts tied to **Blue Haven Ventures** and **Silver Crest Holdings**. Transactions were disguised as "consulting fees" and "client reimbursements," with no corresponding contracts or invoices.

Geo-Location Analysis: Multiple transactions originated from New York, NY, but IP tracking shows subsequent logins from **Toronto, Canada** and **Dubai, UAE**. This geo-variation suggests the use of VPNs or involvement of third parties in multiple jurisdictions, potentially indicating a network of international accomplices.

5. **Evidence of Collusion and Concealment – April 20, 2024**

Account Discrepancy Reports

REMI's anomaly detection flagged a sudden increase in the account balance of **Account Number 123456789**, registered under **Goldstone Advisors**, another suspected shell entity linked to **Caldwell**. Funds were traced back to Stellar Investments via multiple transactions routed through **Blue Haven Ventures Ltd.** and Silver Crest Holdings.

Conclusion: This layered transaction chain, paired with the involvement of multiple shell companies, points to Caldwell and Lin orchestrating a large-scale scheme to siphon funds from Stellar Investments.

Key Individuals and Entities Involved

- **Ethan Caldwell**
Role: CFO, Stellar Investments LLC
Location: New York, NY
Primary Actions: Authorized suspicious transfers, leveraged shell companies, structured payments to avoid AML thresholds.
- **Rachel Lin**
Role: Financial Controller, Stellar Investments LLC
Location: Chicago, IL
Primary Actions: Provided administrative overrides, facilitated unauthorized transactions, and bypassed internal controls.

- **Blue Haven Ventures Ltd.**
Location: Nassau, Bahamas
Involvement: Primary offshore entity receiving layered transactions from Stellar Investments, suspected to be a front for laundering illicit funds.
- **Silver Crest Holdings**
Location: Hong Kong SAR
Involvement: Shell company used as an intermediary to transfer funds through Hong Kong, potentially obscuring financial trails.

Summary of Suspicious Activity and Findings

This investigation points to a coordinated scheme involving Caldwell and Lin, leveraging Stellar Investments' resources and internal access to divert funds into offshore accounts and shell entities. The structured nature of transactions and use of shell companies indicate intent to launder funds, evade AML protocols, and obscure the true origins of the transfers.

Recommendation for Action

1. **Freeze all associated accounts** linked to Stellar Investments LLC, Blue Haven Ventures Ltd., and Silver Crest Holdings.
2. **Conduct a forensic review** of all administrative overrides granted by Rachel Lin within the last 12 months.
3. **Enhance monitoring of layered transactions** and ensure multi-jurisdictional cooperation with law enforcement in Canada, the Bahamas, and Hong Kong.
4. **Audit and strengthen AML compliance controls** within Stellar Investments to prevent future bypassing of standard protocols.