Consultation Brief

Cryptocurrency fraud matter, prepared for an attorney consultation | Reference OSR-A-20261031-5LKX

TOTAL REPORTED LOSS	TRANSACTIONS	DATES OF TRANSFERS
$18,400.00	4	Feb 3, 2026 - Apr 2, 2026

Client	Jordan Example
Contact	(555) 010-2244 | jordan.example@example.com | Fort Worth, TX
Type of scheme	Investment / trading platform (pig butchering)
First contact	Jan 22, 2026 (Dating app (matched with 'Lina'), then WhatsApp, then the TrustFX Pro trading website)
Networks used	Ethereum, TRON
Police report	Fort Worth Police Department, report EX-2026-0412
IC3 submission ID	Not provided

IN BRIEF

The client reports being the victim of an investment scam using a fake trading platform, a scheme often called pig butchering. Between Feb 3, 2026 and Apr 2, 2026, the client made 4 cryptocurrency transfers totaling $18,400.00 to addresses controlled by the people involved. The client's full account is in Section 8.

QUESTIONS THE CLIENT WOULD LIKE TO DISCUSS

Is a civil case worth pursuing for this amount?
Can the exchange that received the funds be required to identify the account holder?
How do your fees work for a case like mine?

AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

- Original screenshots and files listed in Section 7 (2 files)
- Exchange and bank statements
- Full message history with the people involved

This brief organizes the client's own records. It contains no legal analysis and no blockchain tracing by any third party.

SAMPLE

Self-help document. This packet is not legal advice and is not a substitute for the advice of an attorney.

1. CASE SUMMARY

Client	Jordan Example
Location	Fort Worth, TX
Age range	30 to 59
Type of scheme	Investment / trading platform (pig butchering)
First contact	Jan 22, 2026
Contact platforms	Dating app (matched with 'Lina'), then WhatsApp, then the TrustFX Pro trading website
Dates of transfers	Feb 3, 2026 - Apr 2, 2026
Number of transfers	4
Total reported loss	$18,400.00

2. TIMELINE OF EVENTS

DATE	TIME	EVENT
Jan 22, 2026	-	First contact with the suspect (Dating app (matched with 'Lina'), then WhatsApp, then the TrustFX Pro trading website)
Jan 29, 2026	-	Lina asked to move our conversation from the dating app to WhatsApp
Feb 3, 2026	7:42 PM	Transfer 1: sent 2,500 USDT ($2,500.00) on Ethereum to 0xce99ac...da24c5
Feb 19, 2026	8:15 PM	Transfer 2: sent 4,000 USDT ($4,000.00) on Ethereum to 0xce99ac...da24c5
Mar 10, 2026	-	Transfer 3: sent 6,900 USDT ($6,900.00) on TRON to TXa7Mq2V...Jt2Ge4
Apr 2, 2026	9:05 AM	Transfer 4: sent 5,000 USDT ($5,000.00) on TRON to TXa7Mq2V...Jt2Ge4
Apr 5, 2026	2:30 PM	Tried to withdraw. TrustFX Pro said I had to pay a 20% tax first
Apr 9, 2026	-	Lina stopped replying and the TrustFX Pro account was locked

3. TRANSACTIONS

#	DATE / TIME	NETWORK	AMOUNT	USD VALUE	RECEIVING ADDRESS / TRANSACTION HASH

1	Feb 3, 2026 7:42 PM	Ethereum	2,500 USDT	$2,500.00	`To: 0xce99ac89b95f2e9f7b6007eb972fbb50d7da24c5`
					`Tx: 0x5842f593efad66fc15a967504b2dde6594fe30a3629fa167318d8d6ce8965457`
					`From: My exchange account`

2	Feb 19, 2026 8:15 PM	Ethereum	4,000 USDT	$4,000.00	`To: 0xce99ac89b95f2e9f7b6007eb972fbb50d7da24c5`
					`Tx: 0x177445870fa8b9048520563c123b6fc685ce416a873bba9d2cda50bf3b173801`
					`From: My exchange account`

SAMPLE

#	DATE / TIME	NETWORK	AMOUNT	USD VALUE	RECEIVING ADDRESS / TRANSACTION HASH
3	Mar 10, 2026	TRON	6,900 USDT	$6,900.00	To: TXa7Mq2Vn9Rk4Wp8Ls3Bd6Hy5Fc1Jt2Ge4 Tx: 3cfd2d9749a931baa3ae4519feea2a64c8dc0fd0bd6ec82584cefd34f7d9ac9e From: My exchange account
4	Apr 2, 2026 9:05 AM	TRON	5,000 USDT	$5,000.00	To: TXa7Mq2Vn9Rk4Wp8Ls3Bd6Hy5Fc1Jt2Ge4 Tx: 86a5ca609cada3f4c1bba7a78601d3b9b661c91f3ca5e434a09f0ac8bd5307b3 From: My exchange account

Total reported loss: $18,400.00

Verify each transfer on the public blockchain

Each link opens a public blockchain explorer showing the transfer: sender, receiver, amount and time. No login is needed.

Transfer 1: `https://etherscan.io/tx/0x5842f593efad66fc15a967504b2dde6594fe30a3629fa167318d8d6ce8965457`

Transfer 2: `https://etherscan.io/tx/0x177445870fa8b9048520563c123b6fc685ce416a873bba9d2cda50bf3b173801`

Transfer 3: `https://tronscan.org/#/transaction/3cfd2d9749a931baa3ae4519feea2a64c8dc0fd0bd6ec82584cefd34f7d9ac9e`

Transfer 4: `https://tronscan.org/#/transaction/86a5ca609cada3f4c1bba7a78601d3b9b661c91f3ca5e434a09f0ac8bd5307b3`

4. FUNDING TRAIL

Wired money from my bank checking account to my Example Exchange account before each transfer (four wires, Feb 2 to Apr 1, 2026), then bought USDT on the exchange and sent it.

Transfers sent from	My exchange account

5. SUSPECT IDENTIFIERS

Names used	Lina Chen 'Uncle Wei' (mentioned, never spoke to)
Usernames / handles	@lina.trades.daily (WhatsApp profile name)
Phone numbers	+1 (555) 013-7788
Email addresses	support@trustfx-pro.example
Websites and apps	trustfx-pro.example (fake trading platform) TrustFX Pro customer service chat on the site

Receiving addresses

```
0xce99ac89b95f2e9f7b6007eb972fbb50d7da24c5  [Ethereum]
TXa7Mq2Vn9Rk4Wp8Ls3Bd6Hy5Fc1Jt2Ge4  [TRON]
```

6. REPORTS ALREADY MADE

Police agency	Fort Worth Police Department
Police report number	EX-2026-0412
Officer	Ofc. R. Example

SAMPLE

IC3 submission ID	Not provided
Other reports	Exchange tickets or case numbers: Example Exchange support ticket #EX-55821

7. EVIDENCE INDEX

Each file is kept by the victim. The SHA-256 fingerprint was calculated when this packet was created. If the file is fingerprinted again later and the value matches, the file has not been changed.

EXHIBIT	FILE AND DESCRIPTION	SIZE	SHA-256 FINGERPRINT
E-1	sample-chat-1.jpg Lina promising 31% monthly returns and walking me through my first transfer Modified 2026-04-10	88.3 KB	`4395429acc33e480df117ab6f35314681520b6c0a8374d565b057916e183f326`
E-2	sample-chat-2.jpg "Support" demanding a 20% tax before my withdrawal Modified 2026-04-10	86.2 KB	`7710977fb0107626db114300402059b625df84e61ab73d8865fcdaa72f61424a`

8. CLIENT'S ACCOUNT OF WHAT HAPPENED

In January I matched with a woman named Lina on a dating app. After a week she moved our chats to WhatsApp. She said her uncle taught her to trade crypto and showed me screenshots of large profits. She walked me through buying USDT on my exchange and sending it to the TrustFX Pro website. My balance on the site grew quickly, so I sent more. In April I tried to withdraw and was told I had to pay a 20% tax first. When I refused, Lina stopped replying and the site locked my account.

SAMPLE

9. ITEMIZED LOSS SUMMARY

Totals calculated from the transfers the client entered. Grouping by receiving address is arithmetic on the client's own records, not tracing.

By receiving address

RECEIVING ADDRESS	NETWORK	TRANSFERS	USD TOTAL
TXa7Mq2Vn9Rk4Wp8Ls3Bd6Hy5Fc1Jt2Ge4	TRON	2	$11,900.00
0xce99ac89b95f2e9f7b6007eb972fbb50d7da24c5	Ethereum	2	$6,500.00

By month

MONTH	TRANSFERS	USD TOTAL
February 2026	2	$6,500.00
March 2026	1	$6,900.00
April 2026	1	$5,000.00

Other losses and costs

ITEM, AS DESCRIBED BY THE CLIENT	AMOUNT
Bank wire fees, 4 wires, $100	$100.00
Fake withdrawal "tax" requested but not paid, $0	-

Transfers total $18,400.00

Other costs total $100.00

Combined total $18,500.00

Other cost amounts are read from the client's notes (the last number on each line). Please confirm them against the client's records.

SAMPLE

APPENDIX: SCREENSHOTS AND FILES

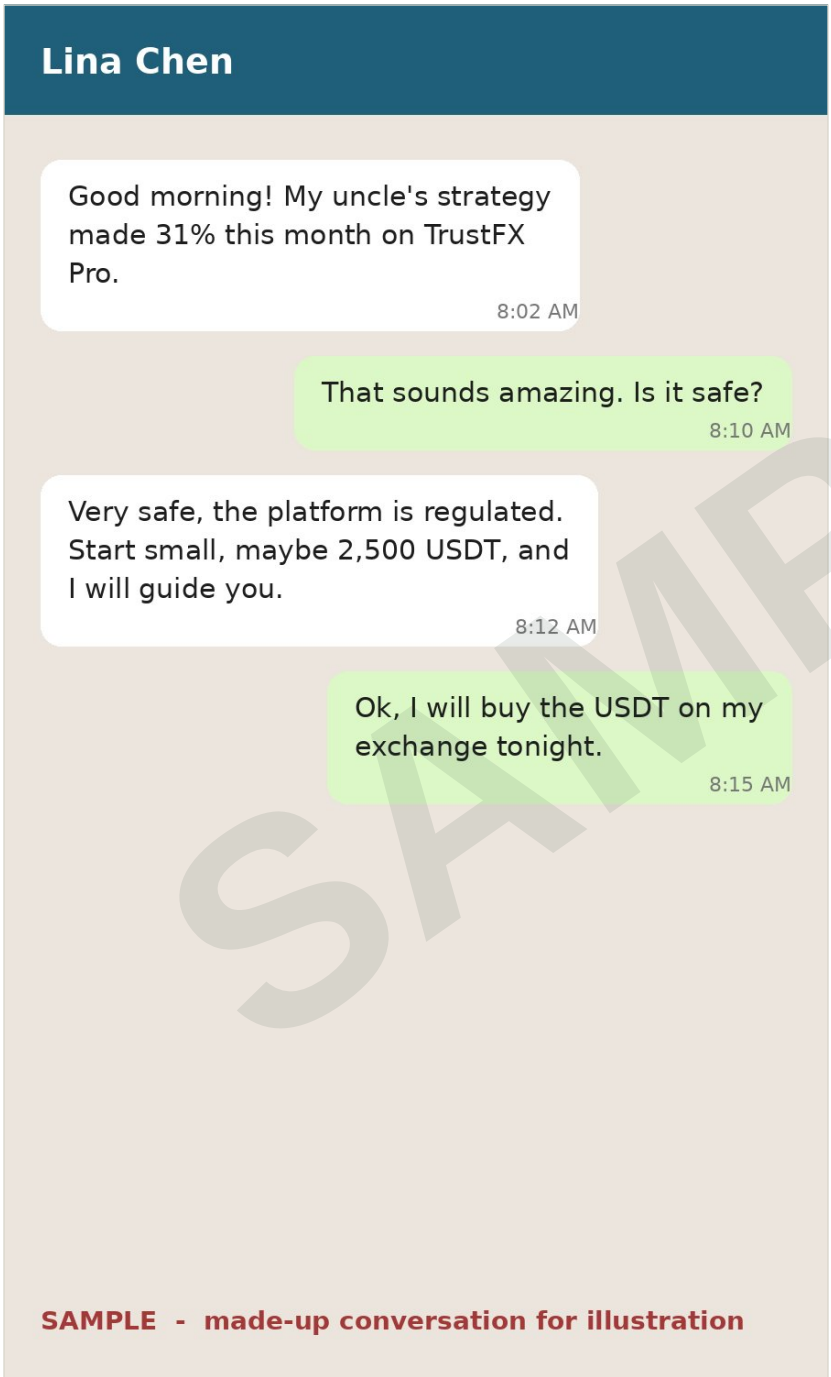
Exhibit E-1

File sample-chat-1.jpg

What it shows Lina promising 31% monthly returns and walking me through my first transfer

Modified 2026-04-10

SHA-256: 4395429acc33e480df117ab6f35314681520b6c0a8374d565b057916e183f326



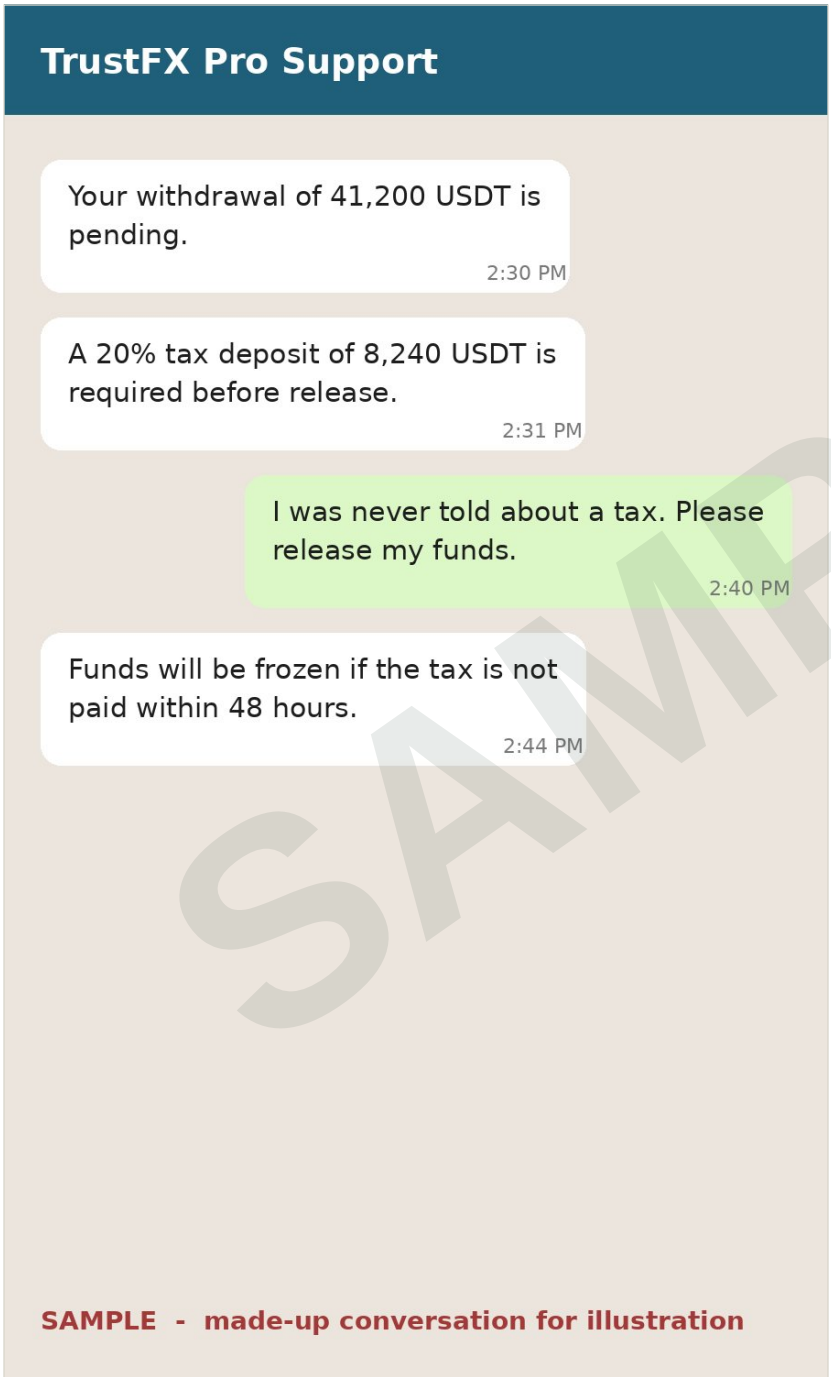
Resized copy for printing. The fingerprint above refers to the original file, which the victim keeps.

APPENDIX: SCREENSHOTS AND FILES

Exhibit E-2

File	sample-chat-2.jpg
What it shows	"Support" demanding a 20% tax before my withdrawal
Modified	2026-04-10

SHA-256: 7710977fb0107626db114300402059b625df84e61ab73d8865fcdaa72f61424a



Resized copy for printing. The fingerprint above refers to the original file, which the victim keeps.

FOR YOUR OWN USE. YOU DON'T NEED TO GIVE THIS PAGE TO THE ATTORNEY.

Before you hire an attorney

Find and check the attorney yourself

- Look attorneys up through your state bar's lawyer search or a certified lawyer referral service.
- Check their license status and any discipline history on the state bar's website.
- Don't hire anyone who contacted you first offering to recover your money. Direct solicitation of clients is generally prohibited.
- Ask whether they carry malpractice insurance.

Ask about fees and expectations

- How do you charge for a case like this: hourly, flat fee, or contingency?
- Can I have the fee agreement in writing before I pay anything?
- How many cryptocurrency fraud cases have you handled, and what were realistic outcomes?
- What will this cost me if no money is recovered?
- How and how often will you update me?

Red flags the FBI has warned about

- A guarantee that you'll get your money back
- Requests for payment in cryptocurrency or gift cards
- Claims of a partnership with a government agency, or that you're on a government list of victims who can be repaid
- Knowing details of your transfers before you shared them
- Refusing a video call or refusing to show a license you can check
- Being passed to a separate "bank" or "processor" that asks for fees

Sources: your state bar's lawyer directory (in Texas, the State Bar of Texas at texasbar.com). FBI Public Service Announcement I-081325-PSA (August 2025).

SAMPLE