

# Suspicious Transaction Reporting:

**Overview & Statistics** 

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## Agenda

- 1. Role in AML/CFT
- 2. STR Mechanism
- 3. STR Statistics
- 4. STR Observation
- 5. Risk Indicators
- **STR Reporting**
- 7. STR Case Examples

## Role in AML/CFT





# Functions provided by lawyers



- Buying /selling property
- Complex legal arrangements
- Financial transactions
- Financial and tax advice

## Role in AML/CFT

"Practice Direction P"

1. Client identification and verification

2. Customer Due Diligence (CDD)

3. Record Keeping

## Role in AML/CFT

Activities identified by FATF to be at risk for ML / TF



- 1. Conveyancing (real estate transactions)
- 2. Trustee services
- 3. Formation and administration of companies and entities
- 4. Buying and selling of businesses

### **STR Mechanism**

#### ← Public-Private Partnership →

Reporting Entities

Financial Institutions & DNFBPs

CDD + KYC

Record Keeping

Internal Controls

STR Filing

Financial
Intelligence Unit

JFIU

STR Regime

Intelligence Exchange

**International Cooperation** 

Training & Outreach

Law
Enforcement
Agencies

e.g. Police, Customs, ICAC

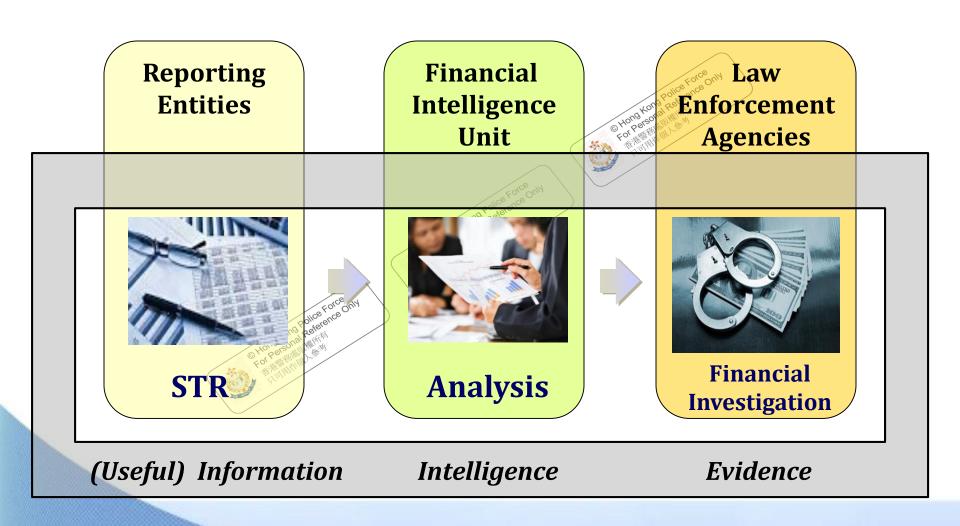
Financial Investigation

**Asset Tracing** 

Restraint & Confiscation

Mutual Legal Assistance

## **STR Mechanism**



## **STR Statistics**





## **STR Observation**

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No. of STRs	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Annual Total	76,590	92,115	73,889	51,588	57,130	56,913	68,538
Filed by Legal sector	969	555	416	810	807	597	681
% of STR filed by Legal Sector		0.60%	0.56%	1.57%	1.41%	1.05%	1.00%

# STR Observation

# Breakdown of STRs filed by different sectors in 2022

Sector	No. of STRs received in 2022	Percentage ONN	
Banks	55,508	1,00°80.00	
Insurance Companies	921	For 1.34	
Securities Firms	622	0.91	
Virtual Asset Trading Platforms	Rend Politice Force On	0.00	
Money Service Operators words	2,623	3.83	
Money Lenders	451	0.66	
Stored Value Facilities Licensees	6,904	10.07	
Estate Agencies	113	0.16	
Dealers in Precious Metals & Stones	6	0.01	
Legal Professionals	681	0.99	
Accounting Professionals	13	0.02	
Trust and Company Service Providers	190	0.28	
Others	506	0.74	
Total	68,538	100	

#### **STR Observation**

#### **Common Scenarios filed by Legal Sectors**

- Large amount of CHATS/Remit/Transfer/Cheque
- Large amount of cash deposits and withdrawals
- · Report for client, who is a victim of crime
- Report client or client's counter-party who might involve in criminal or illicit activities
- Property purchase without mortgage

#### Client

- Individuals: Age / Occupation / Reported Salary / History of business ? Non-resident / Corporate from high-risk country?
- Corporate: Incorporation date / Business nature / Expected turnover? Complex corporate structure (obscuring ultimate beneficial ownership)?

#### **Transaction**

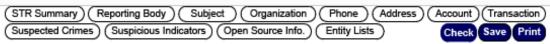
- Payment from 3<sup>rd</sup> party / cashier order?
- Unusual high/ low payment for a property?
- Unexpected arriount of transactions / Suspicious patterns?
- Transacted with unrelated parties / jurisdiction?

#### **Previous Records/ Further Enquiries**

- Background check / open source (adverse news)
- Failing to disclose specific role / relationship / ownership of property
- Unwilling to response to questions or answers are not convincing
- Unwilling to provide supporting document

#### **Evaluation**

- Information from client is incommensurate with your record in hand?
- Information from client could not be verified?
- The client appeared to be a stooge in the transaction?



REPORT MADE UNDER SECTION 25A OF THE
DRUG TRAFFICKING (RECOVERY OF PROCEEDS) ORDINANCE OR
ORGANIZED AND SERIOUS CRIMES ORDINANCE/
SECTION 12 OF THE UNITED NATIONS (ANTI-TERRORISM MEASURES) ORDINANCE
TO THE JOINT FINANCIAL INTELLIGENCE UNIT ("JFIU")

#### STR Summary STR Number: Submission Number: Date of Submission: Acknowledgement Issue Date: Consent Letter Issue Date: ✓ None Not Applicable Consent: Yes No Consent Remark: Special Cases with Time Critical Nature: Yes √ No Report Related to Existing Investigation:

#### **STR Form**



Attach	nment:	+ (Refresh	)
No.	File Name	File Size	
1		КВ	
	Total	КВ	



#### Joint Financial Intelligence Unit



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SEARCH Please enter the

Welcome to the web site of the Joint Financial Intelligence Unit (JFIU) web site. The web site is designed to provide members of the public in Hong Kong, especially the financial institutions (FIs) including banks, securities and insurance companies, money service operators, money lenders and stored values facility licensees, and the designated non-financial businesses and professions (DNFBP) including legal and accounting professionals, estate agents, trust or company service providers and precious metal and stone dealers, a greater understanding of the laws on money laundering and terrorist financing, and the need to make reports about suspicious transactions.



Contact Us

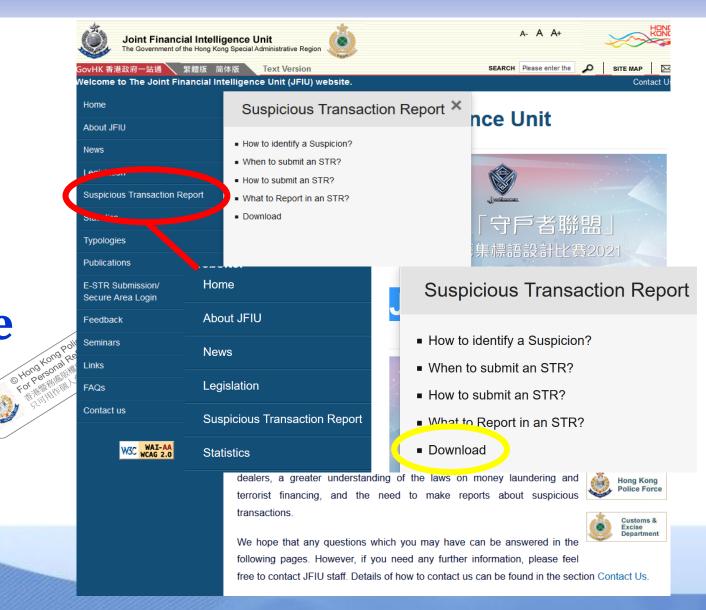




We hope that any questions which you may have can be answered in the following pages. However, if you need any further information, please feel free to contact JFIU staff. Details of how to contact us can be found in the section Contact Us.

JFIU

website



JFIU website

#### How to submit an STR?

Suspicious Transaction Report And Management System (STREAMS)

Suspicious transaction reports can be made in one of the following ways:



- · by e-reporting system, STREAMS
- by email to jfiu@police.gov.hk



• by fax to : (852) 2529 4013

@Hong Kong Politerence

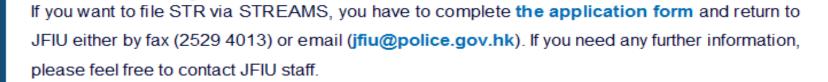


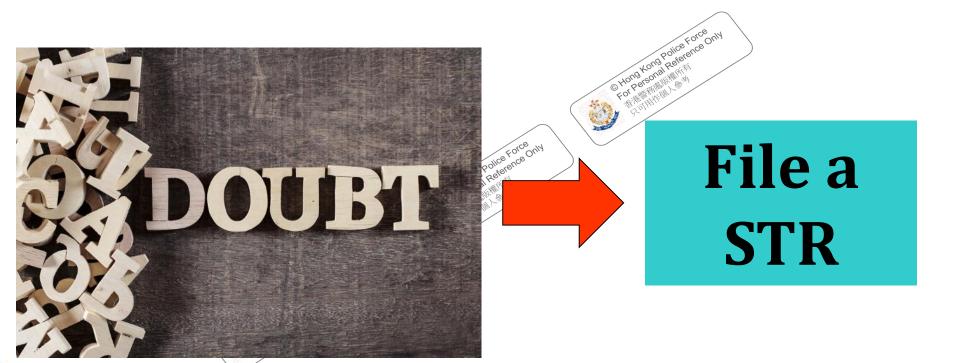


• by mail, addressed to Joint Fin Mal Intelligence Unit, GPO Box 6555 Hong Kong



• by telephone (\$52) 2866 3366 (for urgent reports during office hours)





## Case Example (1)

Services for witnessing the signatures of the parties in respect of purchase contracts









Mr. A



Mr. B

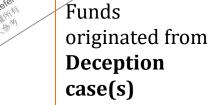




Isolated purchase w/o business background

#### **Payment Method**

Purchase to be settled in cash





Analysis and referral



Detection of the deception and money laundering scheme



## Case Example (2)



港澳版 > 新聞 > 港澳





兩漢分囚3年半及4年 假冒名城業主賣樓呃錢

東網

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NET HIT

東方日報網頁 搵樓18



名城假業主案,譚健龍和陳漢明在區院承認欺詐和洗黑錢共17罪。(資料圖

詐騙集團訛稱是大圍屋苑「名城」的業主,欲以920萬港元放售單 位,其後指派一名男子,手持與直正業主同名的假身份證簽訂臨時買 賣合約,並收取買家值約292萬港元支票。此外,集團又找另一名男 子將名字改成 上述業主, 並到銀行開戶口, 讓集團將該筆款項存入銀 行。2名男子早前承認欺詐和洗黑錢共17罪,其中41歲首被告譚健龍 今(24日)在區域法院被判監48個月,36歲次被告陳漢明被判監42個

首被告曾任職運輸工,現為無業;次被告曾任健身教練,後因被指非 <u>迪而生土工作。</u>注白判刑指,许安人十六结心垒剩下工机术安



星島日報 | 35.5k 人追蹤



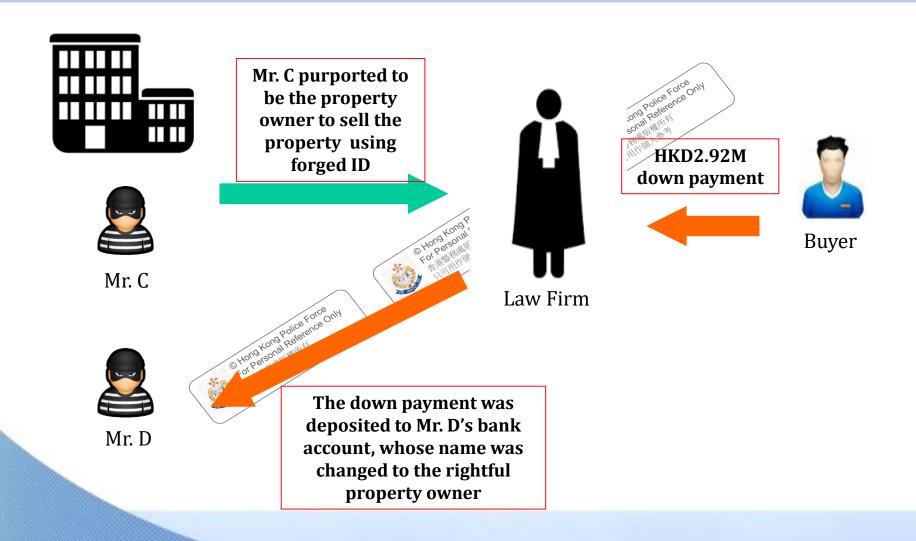
高智騙徒扮名城業主用假證呃訂292萬

2016年5月17日

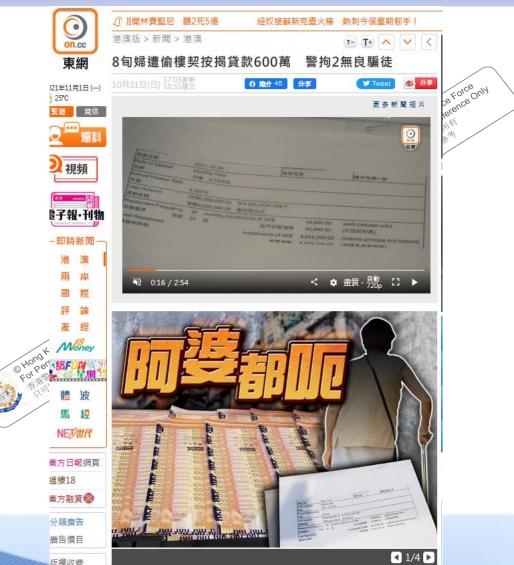
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## Case Example (2)



## Case Example (3)



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## Summary

1. Role of legal sector

2. Importance of CDD/KYC



3. STR



# Thank you