



### **04/07/2023: Mail Theft Results in Check Fraud**

The Financial Crimes Enforcement Network (FinCen) issued an alert in late February regarding a surge in mail theft-related check fraud targeting the U.S. Mail. It was reported that criminals not only attempted to negotiate the stolen checks, but they also used account information obtained to create fictitious checks. It's also important to note that any personal information obtained could be used to exploit victims in future fraud schemes. Here are some tips to help avoid mail theft scams:

- Avoid leaving any outgoing mail in your mailbox overnight.
- If you drop off your mail in a collection box, try to wait until just before the designated pick-up time.
- Sign up for Informed Delivery – a free service with USPS that emails images of every piece of mail you should expect to receive that day. With this service, you'll know right away if something is missing.
- If you're away from home, ask a trusted neighbor to collect your mail or sign up for the USPS Hold Mail service.
- Use Bill Pay services offered by your financial institution whenever possible.
- Always remember to keep an eye on your bank account and report suspicious activity right away.