

# U.S. Secret Service UI Fraud

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U/FOUO

# Global Investigative Operations Center

**Coordination and support hub for large scale and multi-jurisdictional investigations.**

**The GIOC leverages the agency's resources, and technical and analytical experts to develop actionable investigative intelligence and support complex investigative operations.**

**Global Investigative Operations Center (GIOC)**  
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# Why we are here...

- States given flexibility through CARES Act and other legislation to extend UI eligibility
  - CARES Act provided additional \$600 per week to most individuals
- Benefits extended past the original July 31, 2020 deadline
  - Additional 44 billion in FEMA funds to provide supplementary UI benefits
- December 2020
  - Continued Assistance for Unemployed Workers Act of 2020
    - Later the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021
    - Reauthorized many of the same UI Provisions, but with \$300 per week additional UI payment, through September 2021
- Federal governments response to pandemic will have included more than 800 billion in pandemic related UI funding for state work force agencies



# What happened

- Exploited by fraudsters inside and outside the US
- Stolen and fabricated identities used to file hundred of thousand UI Claims
  - Also used to open back accounts
- Fraudsters involved in other schemes transitioned to UI Fraud
- Simultaneously committing other forms of CARES Act Fraud
  - SBA
  - EIDL
  - PPP
- Utilizing network of money launders
  - Use of money mules – witting or unwitting
    - Accepts fraud proceeds into account then withdraws and transfers to account provided
- Programs were easily accessible online
  - What can be done to stop from happening again?





# National Unemployment Insurance Fraud Task Force (NUIFTF)



WORTHY OF TRUST AND CONFIDENCE

## **NUIFTF INTELLIGENCE MISSION**

We research and write actionable investigative lead reports focused on unemployment insurance fraud networks. We support federal law enforcement efforts to investigate and prosecute persons participating in and leading UI fraud networks in the U.S. and internationally. The primary focus is unemployment Insurance fraud but also includes PPP/EIDL fraud.

Initiation

Validation

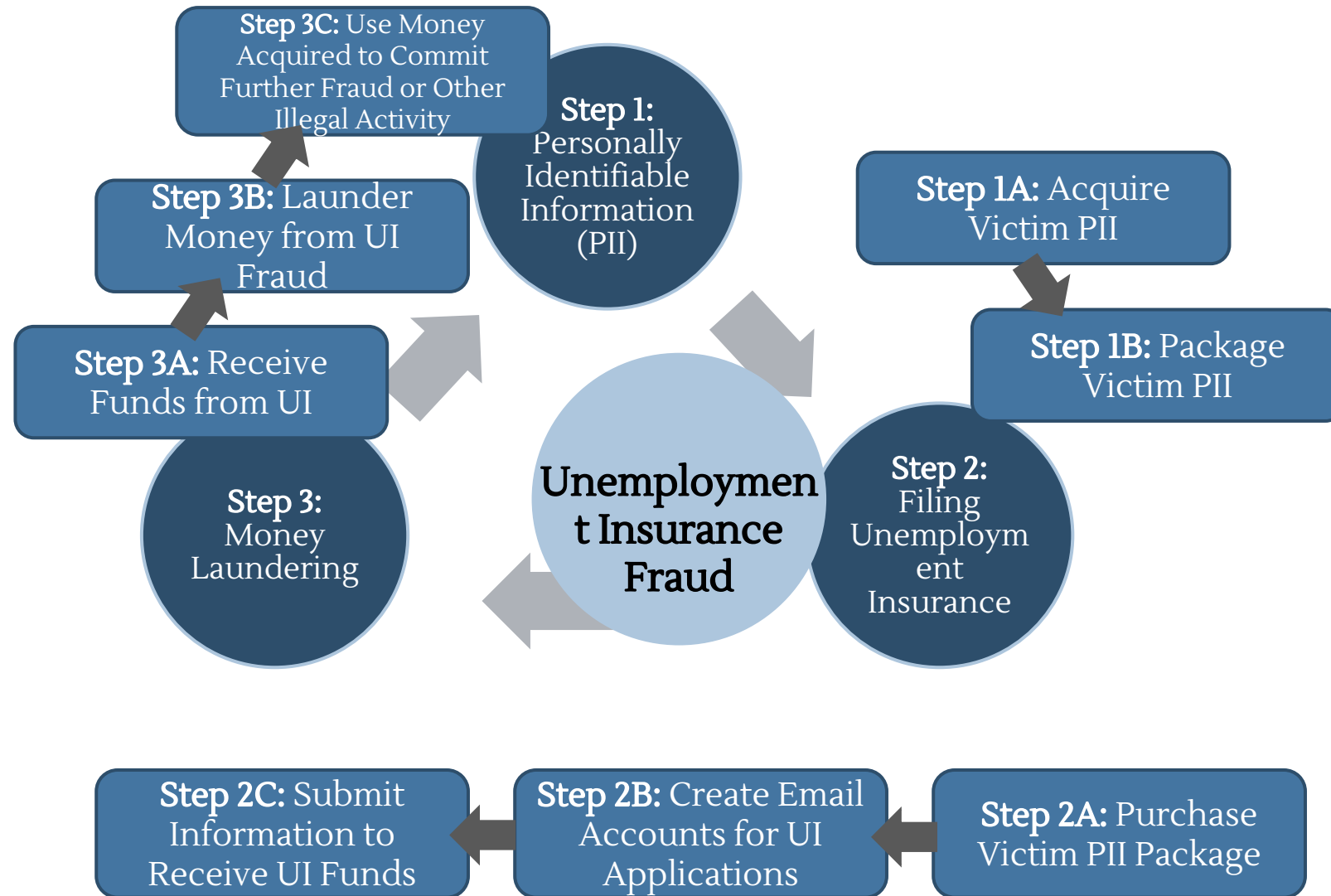
Analysis

Visualization

Prioritization



# UI Fraud Lifecycle



# Investigative Strategies

- Follow the money
- Follow Electronic and Physical Trail
- Misc. Strategies
- International Tips





# What has been done

- Approximately 100 billion in pandemic relief funds stolen
  - Largest fraud of all time?
- USSS seized approximately 1.2 billion dollars
- USSS recovered approximately 2.3 billion
- Over 100 arrests by USSS
- About 1,000 active cases by USSS currently
- Alerted private sector and numerous financial institutions proactively identified, investigated, and safeguarded against suspected fraudulent pandemic funds
  - Green Dot and PayPal – approximately \$400 million seized
- Case Studies
- Continue to investigate



# *Questions?*

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