scamers.org — Press Kit

Operation Sunshine investigative dossiers · Delaware 501(c)(3) nonprofit (File #7372910 | SR 20231158005) · press@scamers.org · https://scamers.org

About scamers.org

scamers.org is a nonprofit scam-intelligence platform. We maintain a public, searchable database of reported scammers, a scam-domain checker, and Operation Sunshine (OSS) — long-form investigative dossiers built on court records, indictments, regulator actions and verified public reporting. Every dossier names its sources and carries a legal disclaimer; anyone named may request review through our "I'm Innocent" process.

Fast facts

Published dossiers	16
Court-convicted subjects	13
Regions covered	12
Public database	Searchable at https://scamers.org/search
Open data endpoints	/api/public/search · /api/public/summary · /llms.txt
Press contact	press@scamers.org

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Subject	Focus	Status	Region	Published
The DOJ Romance Fraud Network	34 named defendants, four convictions, one playbook	publicly exposed	Nigeria / United States	2026-09-14
“Giovanni” (Franklin Ikechukwu Nwadialo)	Five years for a $3.5 million dating-site romance scheme	court convicted	Nigeria / United States	2026-09-14
Adetomiwa Seun Akindele	Nearly six years for a $1.6M scheme against one elderly woman	court convicted	Nigeria / United States	2026-09-14
Charles Uchenna Nwadavid	$2.7 million in restitution for laundering romance proceeds in crypto	court convicted	Nigeria / United States	2026-09-14
Ogolor Ronayerin Ogolor	Three years as the 'financial manager' of a romance scam ring	court convicted	Nigeria / United States	2026-09-14
Max Sangtum Trading (Max Akem (a.k.a. Max Mayor, J.P.J. Akem, "Michael Bell"))	Cameroonian advance-fee trader behind a decade of fake Forex, crypto & commodity sites	publicly exposed	Cameroon (operating); victims worldwide	2026-06-09
The Ghana–Ohio Romance Ring	A transnational dating-app scam, dismantled by the DOJ	court convicted	Ghana / United States (Ohio)	2026-06-06
Malone Lam & the Crypto RICO Ring (Malone Lam)	Lambos, nightclubs, and a federal racketeering indictment	court convicted	United States (Miami / Los Angeles)	2026-06-06
Daren Li	Sentenced to 20 years — then absconded	court convicted	China / St. Kitts & Nevis / United States	2026-06-06

Subject	Focus	Status	Region	Published
MJ Capital Funding (Johanna M. Garcia & Pavel R. Hernandez)	A $196M merchant-cash-advance Ponzi	court convicted	United States (South Florida)	2026-06-06
Troy Murray	The elder-fraud 'sucker list' supplier	court convicted	United States (North Carolina)	2026-06-06
Robert Haley	After-school 'behavioral health' billing fraud	under investigation	United States (Ohio)	2026-06-06
Bernard Madoff (Bernard Lawrence Madoff)	The $65 billion Ponzi king	court convicted	United States	2026-06-03
Hushpuppi (Ramon Olorunwa Abbas)	Instagram flexer turned BEC kingpin	court convicted	United Arab Emirates / United States	2026-06-03
The Tinder Swindler (Shimon Hayut (legally Simon Leviev))	Romance-scam playbook, dating-app distribution	court convicted	Europe / Israel	2026-06-03
Do Kwon (Kwon Do-hyung)	Architect of the $40B Terra/Luna collapse	court convicted	South Korea / Singapore / United States	2026-06-03

Full dossier URLs follow the pattern https://scamers.org/oss/<slug> — the complete index is at https://scamers.org/oss

Dossier summaries

The DOJ Romance Fraud Network

Publicly Exposed · Nigeria / United States · $15M+ across publicly documented cases · 130+ identified victims

An Operation Sunshine map of the Nigerian-linked romance fraud cases publicly documented by the U.S. Department of Justice and the FBI — four sentenced operators, two multi-defendant indictments in Texas and New York, extraditions from Nigeria and South Africa, and six names on FBI cyber wanted notices.

https://scamers.org/oss/nigerian-romance-fraud-network-doj-indictments

“Giovanni”

Court Convicted · Nigeria / United States · ~$3.5 million · 8 identified victims

Court-convicted: Franklin Ikechukwu Nwadialo was sentenced to five years in federal prison for a romance scam that took roughly $3.5 million from eight victims met on Match and Zoosk under the alias “Giovanni”.

https://scamers.org/oss/franklin-nwadialo-giovanni-romance-scam

Adetomiwa Seun Akindele

Court Convicted · Nigeria / United States · ~$1.6 million · 1 elderly victim

Court-convicted: Adetomiwa Seun Akindele pleaded guilty to wire fraud and money laundering and was sentenced to nearly six years in prison over a $1.6 million romance scam that targeted a single elderly American woman.

https://scamers.org/oss/adetomiwa-akindele-elder-romance-fraud

Charles Uchenna Nwadavid

Court Convicted · Nigeria / United States · $2.7M+ ordered in restitution · Multiple romance fraud victims

Court-convicted: Charles Uchenna Nwadavid was sentenced to two years in prison and ordered to pay more than $2.7 million in restitution for stealing from romance scam victims and laundering the proceeds through cryptocurrency.

https://scamers.org/oss/charles-nwadavid-crypto-romance-laundering

Ogolor Ronayerin Ogolor

Court Convicted · Nigeria / United States · ~$900,000 · 12+ victims

Court-convicted: Ogolor Ronayerin Ogolor was sentenced to three years in federal prison for acting as the financial manager of an elaborate romance scam ring that took nearly $900,000 from more than a dozen victims.

https://scamers.org/oss/ogolor-ronayerin-ogolor-romance-ring-finance

Max Sangtum Trading

Publicly Exposed · Cameroon (operating); victims worldwide · Reported in the hundreds of millions of XAF (allegedly ~half a billion FCFA) · Multiple individual investors across romance, Forex and commodity scams (2014–present)

Long-running West African advance-fee scam operation trading under the banner "Max Sangtum Trading" and a rotating set of fake Forex, crypto and agricultural-commodity websites. Operator is publicly identified across WHOIS records and social profiles as Max Akem, now reported to be living in Douala, Cameroon.

https://scamers.org/oss/max-sangtum-trading-advance-fee-ring

The Ghana–Ohio Romance Ring

Court Convicted · Ghana / United States (Ohio) · Tens of millions across hundreds of US victims · Primarily older Americans on dating apps

A federal indictment named more than a dozen Ghanaian and Ohio-based co-conspirators in a long-running romance-fraud operation that targeted lonely Americans on dating apps. Multiple defendants have been sentenced; others await extradition.

https://scamers.org/oss/ghana-ohio-romance-scam-ring

Malone Lam & the Crypto RICO Ring

Court Convicted · United States (Miami / Los Angeles) · $230M+ from a single Washington, DC victim alone · Multiple high-net-worth crypto holders

Federal prosecutors charged Malone Lam and a dozen co-conspirators with running a RICO enterprise that drained crypto wallets via social-engineering and laundered proceeds through luxury cars, watches, and nightclubs in Miami and Los Angeles.

https://scamers.org/oss/malone-lam-crypto-rico-ring

Daren Li

Court Convicted · China / St. Kitts & Nevis / United States · ~$73M wired to scheme-controlled accounts · Hundreds of US victims of romance-investment scams

Chinese national and St. Kitts & Nevis citizen convicted of running a $73 million pig-butchering crypto investment scheme. Sentenced in absentia to 20 years after fleeing US supervision; currently a federal fugitive.

https://scamers.org/oss/daren-li-73m-crypto-fugitive

MJ Capital Funding

Court Convicted · United States (South Florida) · ~$196M across 16,000+ investors · Primarily Latino retail investors in Broward & Miami-Dade counties

Johanna M. Garcia and Pavel R. Hernandez ran MJ Capital Funding as a ~$196 million Ponzi scheme disguised as a merchant cash-advance business, targeting Latino investors across South Florida. Both are now serving federal prison sentences.

https://scamers.org/oss/mj-capital-funding-ponzi

Troy Murray

Court Convicted · United States (North Carolina) · Tens of millions in downstream victim losses · Elderly Americans across all 50 states

Hickory, North Carolina data broker who sold curated lead lists of elderly Americans to overseas lottery-and-sweepstakes scammers. Sentenced to 121 months in May 2026 for conspiracy to commit mail and wire fraud.

https://scamers.org/oss/troy-murray-lottery-data-broker

Robert Haley

Under Investigation · United States (Ohio) · Multimillion-dollar Medicaid losses (alleged) · Ohio Medicaid program & enrolled children's families

Cincinnati, Ohio operator charged in a multimillion-dollar Medicaid fraud involving an after-school behavioral-health program that billed for services never delivered to enrolled children.

https://scamers.org/oss/robert-haley-medicaid-fraud

Bernard Madoff

Court Convicted · United States · ~$65 billion (paper losses) · ~37,000 across 136 countries

Court-convicted operator of the largest Ponzi scheme in history. Sentenced to 150 years in federal prison after defrauding nearly 37,000 investors across 136 countries.

https://scamers.org/oss/bernard-madoff-ponzi-king

Hushpuppi

Court Convicted · United Arab Emirates / United States · $24M+ proven, ~$300M alleged · Banks, law firms, a US sports team, a Premier League club

Nigerian-born influencer who laundered hundreds of millions through business email compromise (BEC) scams while flexing private jets on Instagram. Sentenced to 11 years in US federal prison in November 2022.

https://scamers.org/oss/ramon-abbas-hushpuppi

The Tinder Swindler

Court Convicted · Europe / Israel · ~$10M across Europe · Dozens publicly identified; unknown total

Israeli con artist who posed as the billionaire son of diamond magnate Lev Leviev to defraud women he met on Tinder out of an estimated $10 million. Convicted of fraud in Finland and Israel.

https://scamers.org/oss/tinder-swindler-simon-leviev

Do Kwon

Court Convicted · South Korea / Singapore / United States · ~$40B in market value destroyed · Hundreds of thousands of retail crypto holders worldwide

Co-founder of Terraform Labs whose algorithmic stablecoin UST de-pegged in May 2022, wiping out an estimated $40 billion in 72 hours. Convicted of fraud-related charges in Montenegro; extradited to the United States to face SDNY charges.

https://scamers.org/oss/do-kwon-terra-luna-collapse

Using our material

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Legal note: dossiers distinguish court-confirmed convictions from allegations. People charged but not convicted are presumed innocent unless proven guilty.