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From: SecureNigeria [redacted]
Sent: Thursday, October 15, 2026 3:52 PM
To:
Subject: The Justice Department and Nigerian Government Deliver with Joint Operation to Bust Scam Centers

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The Justice Department and Nigerian Government Deliver with Joint Operation to Bust Scam Centers

Every few weeks, someone in Washington discovers a new reason why Nigeria supposedly can't be trusted. This week, the Justice Department offered proof to the contrary.

On Tuesday, the Department of Justice announced the results of "Joint Disruption Week," the first coordinated international crackdown aimed specifically at scam centers operating out of West Africa. Over the week of October 6, investigators from the United States, the United Kingdom, Nigeria, Ghana, and several other countries partnered with some of the biggest names in tech to

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trade intelligence, using it to make arrests. The tech companies pulled down more than 3.7 million scam-linked accounts, pages, and groups, the largest takedown of its kind in the region, flagging over $11 million in funds that could potentially be frozen.

Nigeria played a large part in the operation's success. The Nigeria Police Force National Cybercrime Center and Nigeria's Joint Case Team on Cybercrimes worked alongside the FBI and Britain's National Crime Agency. Inside Nigeria, authorities arrested nine people and seized 53 devices. In Ghana, Nigeria's Economic and Financial Crimes Commission backed a raid outside Accra that ended with 19 arrests and 303 devices seized. It also turned up 117 trafficking victims who are now waiting to return to Nigeria.

Assistant Attorney General A. Tysen Duva, who runs DOJ's Criminal Division, made a point of thanking *"the courageous law enforcement officers in Ghana and Nigeria"* who risked their own safety to arrest the people behind these schemes.

The scams disrupted by the joint mission ranged from crypto "pig butchering" cons to fake-cop "digital arrest" extortion, with many targeting people in the United States. According to the FBI, scams like these cheat victims out of billions of dollars per year. The Ghana raid alone identified 89 victims who had collectively lost about $8.3 million.

In March, President Trump signed an executive order directing his administration to go after the fraud networks draining Americans' savings. Seven months later, Nigerian officers are helping to carry it out. It fits a pattern that's increasingly hard to miss. Since May, joint counterterrorism operations have killed ISIS's No. 2 global leader and more than 200 terrorist fighters. Last month, the two governments signed a critical minerals framework. Scam centers are just the latest front.

Nigeria's critics in Washington like to talk about the country as a problem to be managed. Meanwhile, Nigerian officers spent last week arresting suspects tied to scams that target Americans and helping trafficking victims get home. Nothing would make West Africa's scam bosses happier than watching Washington walk away from that partnership.

Thankfully, President Trump is too smart to let a successful security partnership go to waste.

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