

# **Notice of Recruitment Fraud**

It has come to our attention that some members of the public have recently received communication from individuals not associated with The Farmer's Dog relating to both real and falsified job opportunities. We are taking this matter extremely seriously and are working with the appropriate legal authorities to attempt to terminate this ongoing fraudulent scheme.

## What is recruitment fraud?

Recruitment fraud is a sophisticated fraud offering fictitious job opportunities. This type of fraud is normally perpetrated through online services such as fraudulent job postings on legitimate job boards, job postings using bogus websites, or through unsolicited emails claiming to be from The Farmer's Dog. These emails request recipients to provide personal information and sometimes money, under the guise of applying for and becoming an employee of The Farmer's Dog.

#### How to identify recruitment fraud

The perpetrators often ask recipients to complete bogus recruitment documentation, such as application forms, terms and conditions of employment or visa forms. The Farmer's Dog name and logo are often featured on the documentation without authority.

- There is an early request for personal information such as address details, date of birth, CV, passport details, bank details etc.
- Candidates may be requested to contact other companies/individuals such as lawyers, bank officials, travel agencies, courier companies, visa/immigration processing agencies etc.
- Correspondence may contain typographical and grammatical errors.
- E-mail correspondence is often sent from (or to) free web-based e-mail accounts such as Yahoo.com, Yahoo.co.uk, Gmail.com, Googlemail.com, Live.com or from domains named similarly to The Farmer's Dog.
- The perpetrators frequently use mobile telephone numbers instead of official company numbers.
- The perpetrators may even offer to pay a percentage of the fees requested and ask the candidate to pay the remaining amount.
- There is an insistence on urgency for the applicant to act on the correspondence received.

#### Recruitment fraud involving The Farmer's Dog



Currently we are aware of certain job postings made through Recooty, Indeed and Glassdoor for remote positions including "Administrative Assistant", "Audio Designer", and "Content Writer". These postings ask interested candidates to email a person at an unaffiliated email address (in this case, info@thefarmersdog.careers and hr@thefarmersdog.careers) to be considered for the position.

## What should I do?

- Save messages from the perpetrator for further investigation if necessary. Save the original subject line, complete headers and complete message content.
- Report the situation to The Farmer's Dog (security@thefarmersdog.com) so that we can continue to work to stop the fraud.
- You can also contact your local police or legal authority and provide them with all information you may have from the senders.
- When looking to apply for a job online with The Farmer's Dog, look for a link on the <u>Careers</u> <u>page</u> of our official website.

## Do Not:

- Install any software as part of any interview process through The Farmer's Dog.
- Respond to business offers of employment from people that you have not confirmed are legitimate.
- Disclose your personal or financial details to anyone you do not know.
- Send any money. The Farmer's Dog does not ask for money transfers or payments from applicants to secure a job.
- Engage in further communication if you believe the communications may be fraudulent.

We also encourage you to file a complaint with the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Internet Crime Complaint Center at this link: https://www.ic3.gov/default.aspx

# Additional Resources:

- File an incident report at: <u>http://www.cybercrime.gov</u>
- Call the FTC at: 1-877-FTC-HELP (1-877-382-4357).
- Contact your bank or credit card company to close the account and dispute the charges.