

## **FRAUD ALERT: New scam attempts using LinkedIn**

It is only a matter of time before any web-based service becomes a tool for scammers – LinkedIn is no exception. Lawyers have received messages through their LinkedIn accounts along the lines of:

### **LinkedIn**

**INMAIL:** YOU HAVE A NEW MESSAGE

**From:** John Smith

**Date:** 4/15/2011

**Subject:** Debt collection...

Hello Sir,

I'm in need of a capable contract lawyer that can help our company handle a debt collection issue.

I've gone through your profile and i find it classic.

Get back to me if your firm can handle this case. I look forward to your response.

Kind Regards

Mr. John Smith

Although there is no specific information that verifies this as a scam, the nature of the client's request (e.g., debt collection) and the broken grammar are reminiscent of other common scams. A reminder to all members that regardless of the medium through which you are contacted or the nature of the communication, and regardless of how legitimate or dubious the offer seems – be vigilant in verifying facts and follow your instincts. Follow the NSBS Client ID Regulation 4.5.11 and use sample verification agreements found at NSBS [Client ID Regulations](#).

*To report or seek advice on dealing with fraud and scam attempts, contact Cynthia Nield at [cnield@lians.ca](mailto:cnield@lians.ca) or 902 423 1300, x346.*