



#THE PROFILER

SCAM-DETECTION GUIDE, Vol. 1

Become Harder to Scam While Open to Work on LinkedIn



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THEPROFILER.ORG



<https://linkedin.com/in/theprofiler>



<https://substack.com/theprofiler7>



#OPENTOWORK

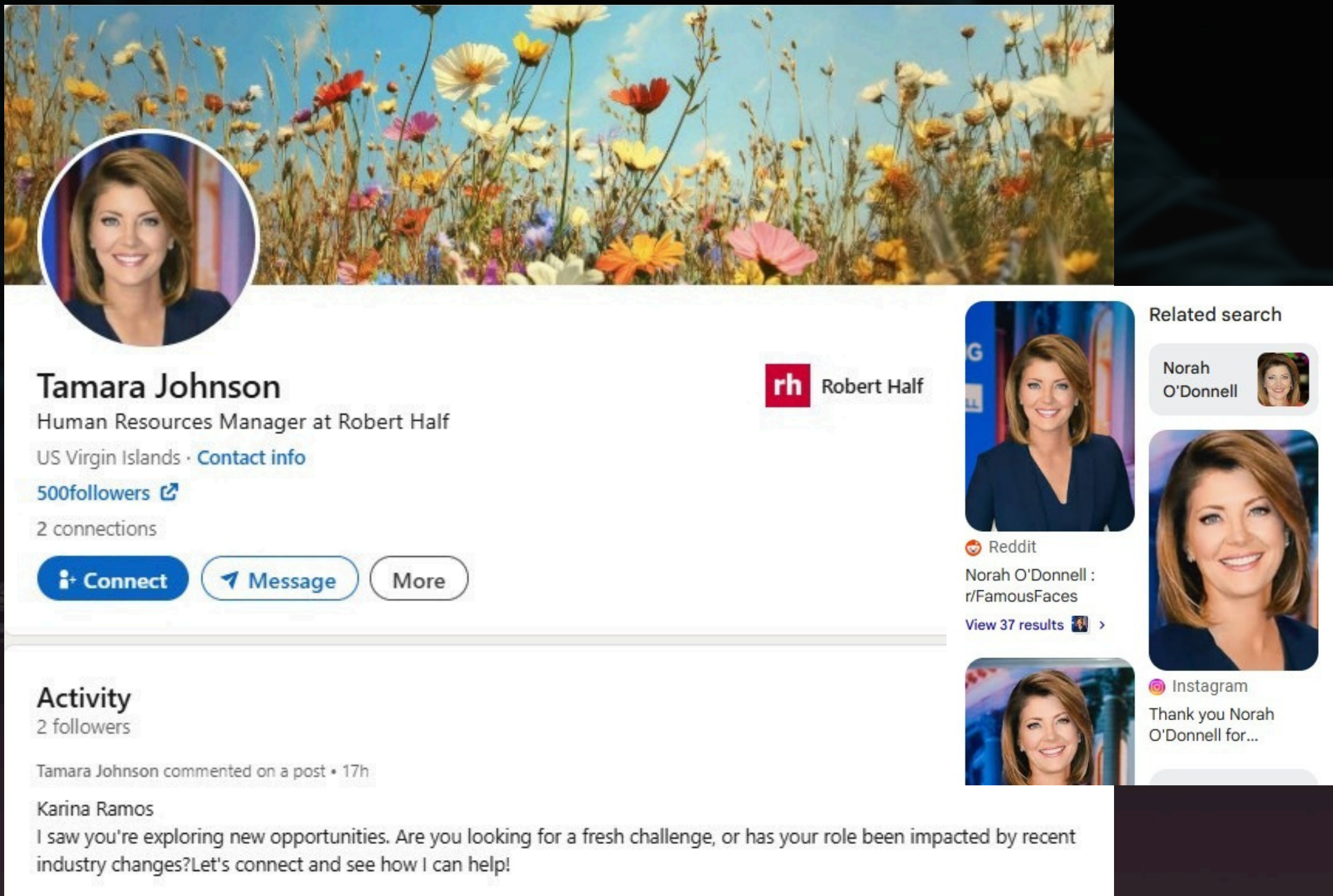
1 SCENE OF THE CRIME

- Does this “recruiter” have a big title, but a small following?
- Did this “recruiter” or “HR professional” join LinkedIn recently?
- Did they comment on your open to work post asking you to send your résumé to a Gmail account?
- Does the “recruiter” ask for too much personal information up front without revealing the “job” they have?
- Is the job absent from the company’s official careers page?
- Do they want you to talk to them on WhatsApp, Fiverr or Upwork?
- Is their follower count a blue hyperlink instead of a real number?

If the answer is ‘yes’ to even **ONE of these questions, this is a scammer you should report, DM to me, and block.**



SCENE OF THE CRIME EXAMPLE



Tamara Johnson
Human Resources Manager at Robert Half
US Virgin Islands · [Contact info](#)
500followers [↗](#)
2 connections
[Connect](#) [Message](#) [More](#)

Activity
2 followers

Tamara Johnson commented on a post • 17h

Karina Ramos
I saw you're exploring new opportunities. Are you looking for a fresh challenge, or has your role been impacted by recent industry changes? Let's connect and see how I can help!

Related search

Norah O'Donnell 


Reddit
Norah O'Donnell : r/FamousFaces
[View 37 results](#) [↗](#)


Instagram
Thank you Norah O'Donnell for...

Scammers steal pictures of people (in this case Norah O'Donnell) to remain anonymous. A common company they pretend to work for is Robert Half. Notice the “500followers” is a link while they really only have 2 followers. They also post the same comment or slight variations of posts where people are using the open to work banner. Scammers spam connection requests and LinkedIn allows about 200 max per week. They ask you to connect because they can no longer send them.



2

INTERROGATION

- Is the salary believable, or does it seem “too good to be true”?
- Are there credible work experiences/endorsements in their background?
- Do they have a strong network of connections? Is their email address from the company’s official domain?
 - (no Gmail, no dashes, etc.)
- Are they trying to pressure you into giving them your résumé fast?
- Are they evasive when you ask legitimate questions?
- Do they become “LinkedIn Member” after a few messages?
 - *This is because they block people who don’t quickly give them what they want. They block you so you can’t tell others about them.*

NEVER be so eager to respond that you don’t stop to question who is offering to “help” you. You have power and the right to ask questions.



INTERROGATION EXAMPLE



Scammers post comments on pretty much every person who uses the open to work banner. It's been a magnet for bad actors for years now and the messages are intensifying because so many people are out of work.

This fake profile claimed to be a "Social Media Designer" for MetLife, yet is recruiting people to send their résumés to a "Mrs. Teressa." Mrs. Teressa is a fictitious character (one of many) they use to phish résumés so they can tell you yours "failed the ATS." I get messages from dozens of people every week asking me if they should respond to these kind of comments or if a profile is legitimate.

They want to believe this is a real opportunity because they need it to be real. Sadly, I have to tell them that this is a scam and while it dampens their hopes, it's better than the alternative—facing financial ruin.

 **Pro tip: Whenever you see a gmail address in a comment, search it on LinkedIn and you'll find there are several other fake profiles using it which confirms this is a scam.**



EVIDENCE COLLECTION

- Is the job only on LinkedIn using Easy Apply but not the company's site?
- Does the company even exist anywhere else other than LinkedIn?
- Does the recruiter's communication sound like an American talks?
- Are the documents the recruiter sends you professional or do they look fake?
- Are there grammar mistakes, odd phrasing, or generic greetings?
 - Scammers send so many messages they can't possibly get every person's name right because they copy + paste templates. They'll say things like, "Good sir/madam," "kindly," "let's connect," etc.
- Are they evasive about getting on a video call?
- Do they tell you the role is closing soon, but they *had* to reach out to you?

If you suspect something is off, *don't override yourself*. Stop all communication and move on to a trustworthy recruiter.



EVIDENCE COLLECTION EXAMPLE



From: Molly Grier <hrmolly.accenture@gmail.com>

Date: April 21, 2025 at 11:35:01 AM EDT

Subject: Molly; Urgent.... Re job opp per Accenture-per Richard Mack, his msg he sent to me via LI, Wed. eve.

I know things can get busy, but I didn't want you to miss out on a potential opportunity that could align with your goals.

When we first connected, your profile stood out, and I genuinely believe your skills could be a strong fit for a role here at Accenture. We don't reach out to just anyone. There was something in you that matched the kind of talent we value.

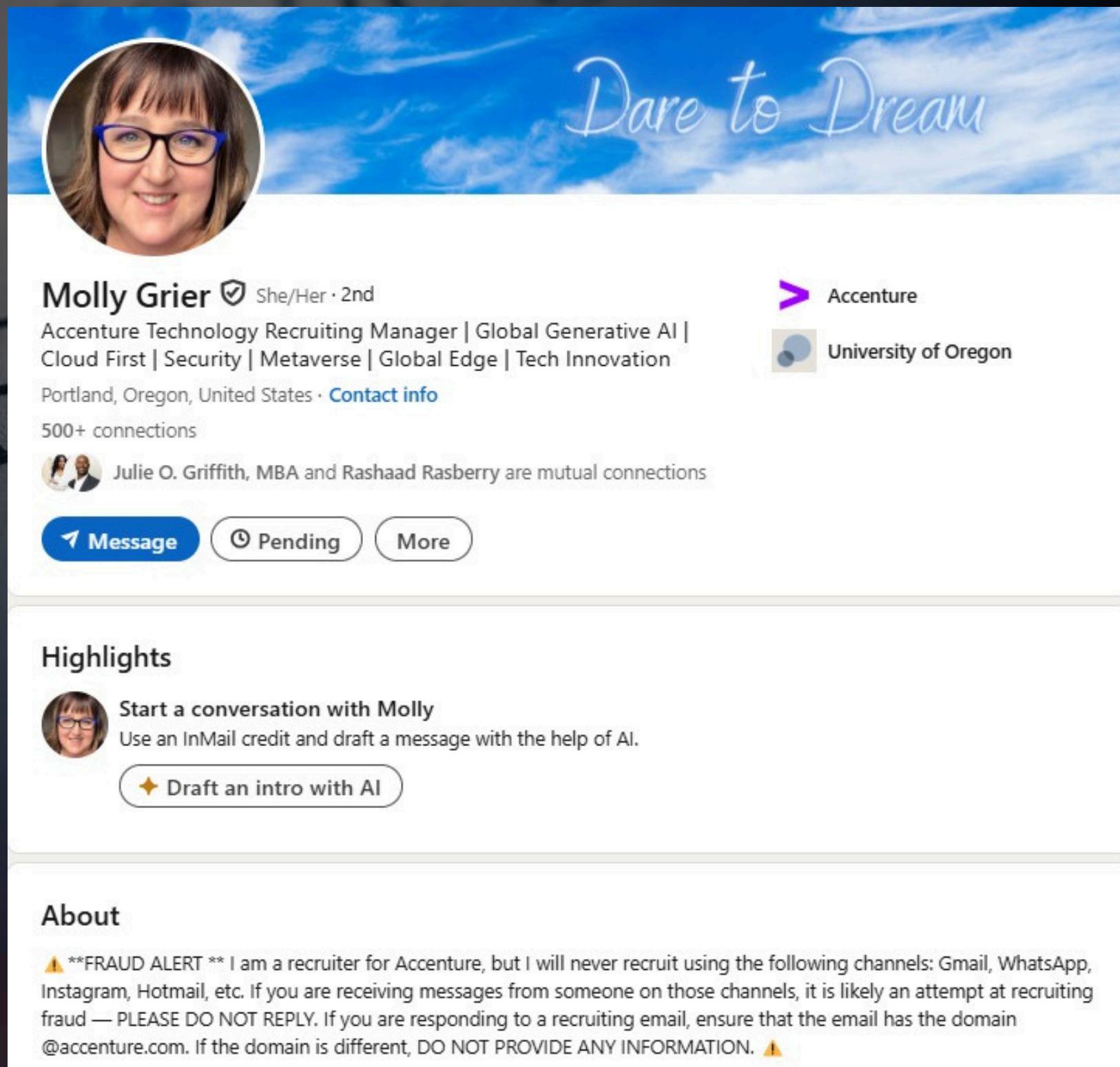
If you've been on the fence, unsure, or just needed time, I completely understand. But I wanted to leave this here as a reminder: opportunities like this don't always come around twice.

Would it make sense for us to reconnect and explore what this could look like for you?

Looking forward to hearing from you.



EVIDENCE COLLECTION EXAMPLE, CONT.



Real recruiters don't talk the way the emails on page 6 read. It's written to flatter you so you give your personal information. What's so deceptive about this scam is that Molly Grier is a real recruiter with Accenture. If someone looked her up prior to the fraud alert she added to her profile, they would think this was a real message from her. Once recruiters become aware of their names being used in scams, they let their networks know.

Always double-check with the recruiter and ask if the message came from them.



4 RED FLAG SURVEILLANCE

- Do they want sensitive info (SSN, bank details, ID) before a formal offer?
- Do they make you an offer without ever interviewing you in-person or on video?
- Is there a request for payment for training, equipment, or background checks?
- Do they claim you applied for a role but you don't have a confirmation email?
- Do they want you to download Microsoft Teams or any app to interview?
- Do they need access to your computer to "walk you through applying?"

You should **NEVER download anything to apply, grant remote access to your computer or divulge sensitive info until you are **absolutely sure** the recruiter/company are real.**



RED FLAG SURVEILLANCE: SPOTTING THE CLUES EXAMPLE # 1

Re: Confirming Writing Application for Jay  Inbox x

Claire Porter <cporter@iapweye.com>

Wed, Apr 9, 5:15 PM

to me 

Hi Jay,

Thank you for sending in an application for the recent content writer opening with our association.

We would like to notify you that we have reviewed your application and, after determining that it meets our quality guidelines, we are happy to offer you the position.

The beginning rate of pay for this role is \$10 per 100 words, which comes out to approximately \$40 per hour (based on the average time it takes our writers to complete a 400 word article).

If you would like to move forward, we will send you an invitation to our content portal where you can accept assignments based on your availability.

Important - If, for any reason, we don't receive a response from you within the next 5 days, we will start reaching out to other applicants to fill this role.

If you would like to get started, please complete the short registration form at this [link](#).

Best,

Claire Porter
HR Lead

On Nov 20, 2024, at 3:38 PM, <jonescopy27@gmail.com> wrote:

Confirming my content writer submission.

This is one of two emails scammers sent
to me attempting to get my information.



RED FLAG SURVEILLANCE: SPOTTING THE CLUES EXAMPLE # 2

Re: Writer Confirmation for Jay 📧 Inbox x



Anne Reed <areed@iapwene.com>

to me ▾

Wed, Apr 9, 5:58 PM



Hi Jay,

We'd like to take a brief moment to thank you for taking an interest in our recent call for a content writer.

We think you'll be pleased to know that your application has been approved and we would like to offer you the position.

The initial pay rate will be \$10 per 100 words, which comes out to approximately \$40 per hour (based on the average time it takes our writers to complete a 400 word article).

If you want to accept the position, we will send an invite to our content portal where you can accept assignments based on your availability.

If we do not hear from you within the next 5 days, we will begin reaching out to other applicants to fill this role.

If you would like to get started, please complete the short registration form [here](#).

Best,

Anne Read
Content Lead

On Nov 11, 2024, at 1:19 PM, <jonescopy27@gmail.com> wrote:

I am sending this to confirm my interest in the content writer position..

Search your email history to see if you ever sent them a message.

Search the URL in Google, don't go to it directly to see if it even exists.

Search the person's name and the company to see if they work there.

Don't click any links or download any apps to apply for a job.

If they use high-pressure sales tactics, disengage.





CLOSING THE CASE

- Report the profile or job posting to LinkedIn.
- Make a post alerting your network and tag me so I can look into it.
- DM me the profile and/or job posting you suspect is fake.
- Alert the real company if their name or employees are being used in the scam.
- Change your passwords if you shared info.
- File a report with the authorities (FTC, Action Fraud, etc.).

They won't stop trying to scam you and anyone else they can.

Their lives are committed to ruining yours.

You have to be more committed to seeing them fail no matter what.





CLOSING THE CASE, CONT.

I created this guide to help give you something to go back to every day and night of your job search. I post daily on LinkedIn exposing all manner of scams but I wanted to compile something you could use while I continue the work.

Follow me to protect yourself in this job market.

♻️ Repost this guide to help millions of job seekers ♻️

Please help support. Please implore others to do the same. Have to prevent homelessness and vehicle repossession. I can't go on without your help:
<https://lnkd.in/gBq9Dgrj> To give directly, here are additional options:

- ☕ Buy me a coffee = buymeacoffee.com/TheProfiler
- 📌 Venmo = @mrjonescopy
- 📌 PayPal = @jonescopy
- 📌 Cash App = \$TheProfiler
- 📌 Zelle = jonescopy27@gmail.com, the last four of my phone number are 7201.





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