

In emails to UK police, Anonymous seeks solidarity

October 25 2012

(AP)—The online movement known as Anonymous has made an unusual appeal to British police: "Stand with us."

Authorities said Thursday that the cyber rebels apparently broke into a forum called UKPoliceOnline to steal officers' email addresses, which they used to distribute a manifesto to current and former members of British law enforcement.

"We know that most of you are working-class people, like the majority of us, and that you too have [mortgages](#), student loans, or your children do, and other debts as well. Don't defend the traitors against us, your fellow [citizens](#)," the message read in part. "We offer you our hands in friendship. Join us."

Anonymous is an amorphous, Internet-based insurgency responsible for a slew of cyberattacks against law enforcement websites, so the tone of its latest missive was something of a departure from previous practice.

Geoff Hyams, the managing director of The NSI Group, which runs UKPoliceOnline, described the messages as sober and thoughtful. "It was almost like a recruitment-type email," he said.

It's unclear how successful the recruitment drive will be.

London's [Metropolitan Police](#) said in a statement that it was investigating how Anonymous obtained the officers' email addresses.

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Citation: In emails to UK police, Anonymous seeks solidarity (2012, October 25) retrieved 6 May 2024 from <https://phys.org/news/2012-10-emails-uk-police-anonymous-solidarity.html>

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