

US offers rewards for Romanian pair in online scam

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US officials on Tuesday added suspected online fraudster Nicolae Popescu to its most-wanted list of cyber criminals and put a price on his head.

A reward of as much as a million dollars is being offered for information that results in the capture or conviction of Popescu, who investigators believe may be in Europe.

A bounty capped at \$750,000 is also being offered for information leading to the arrest and successful criminal prosecution of Dumitru Daniel Bosogioiu, a fellow Romanian identified as a co-conspirator in the cyber fraud with Popescu.

That fraud bilked millions of dollars from shoppers by posting fake listings for high-value items such as cars and boats online, according to the US Department of State.

Online shoppers were directed to wire payments to <u>bank accounts</u> opened with bogus identification, then the money was transferred to leaders overseeing the scam from Romania, investigators said in a news release.

Popescu and Bosogioiu are wanted by the Federal Bureau of Investigation on charges including conspiracy to commit wire fraud, <u>money laundering</u>, and passport <u>fraud</u>.



The FBI added Popescu to its Cyber's Most Wanted list which was started in 2013 to spotlight "egregious cyber crimes committed on a global scale."

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