

# Editorial Standards

Sensational voice. Forensic accuracy. Court-first continuity.

**Mission:** Document cyber-financial crime (crypto, payments, open banking, offshore casinos, scam platforms, laundering networks) with court-literate reporting readers can follow over time.

**North Star:** A reliable case-and-person feed with docket updates, next dates, and evidence-led narratives.

## 1) Tone rules - Forensic Sensationalism

- Write hard, stay precise. Anchor every punchline in the record.
- Use status labels: Alleged / Charged / Pled Guilty / Convicted / Sentenced / Released.
- Short paragraphs. Strong verbs. No crime how-to instructions.

## 2) Evidence standards

**Tier 1 (primary):** indictments, complaints, affidavits, warrants, plea agreements, judgments, sentencing memos, docket entries, transcripts; official releases by courts, prosecutors, regulators.

**Tier 2 (strong secondary):** reputable media citing primary documents with clear attribution.

**Tier 3 (leads only):** social posts, forums, anonymous tips. Use only as signals and label them.

- Every article includes an Evidence Box (3-7 items: document / authority / date).
- If a claim is not traceable, it must be written as uncertainty and graded.

## 3) Defamation-safe language

- Do not declare guilt without adjudication. Use: 'prosecutors allege', 'the indictment claims', 'court records show'.
- Avoid declaratives like 'is a criminal' or 'stole' unless the conviction record supports it.
- No doxing. Names and aliases must be documented. No private addresses/phones.

## 4) Court and docket standards

- Every case/person piece includes a Court and Docket block: court, case number (if known), procedural posture, last checked date.
- Always include next known court dates and deadlines. If none: 'No future date listed as of [date]'.
- Use absolute dates (e.g., January 4, 2026). Add timezone if relevant.

## 5) Confidence grading (mandatory)

**Confirmed:** directly supported by Tier-1 sources.

**Corroborated:** supported by multiple independent Tier-2 and/or partial Tier-1.

**Indicated:** credible lead, not yet documented strongly.

**Unknown:** cannot be reliably assessed.

- Rule: If it cannot clear Corroborated, it cannot be written as a declarative fact.

## 6) Pre-publish safety checklist

- Status label correct; allegations separated from proven facts.
- Court and Docket block complete (or explicitly unknown).
- Evidence Box included; confidence grades applied to key claims.
- No instructional content; no insinuation beyond sources.

## 7) Mandatory close: Whistle42

End every article with a Call for Information inviting insiders, victims, investigators, and industry personnel to submit documents, descriptors, wallet addresses, entity records, or court filings via Whistle42.

### Boilerplate blocks (conv/naste)

#### Court & Docket

Court: [ ] • Case No.: [ ] • Status: [ ]  
Next dates: [ ] • Last checked: [date]

#### Evidence Box

- [Document / Authority / Date]
- [Document / Authority / Date]
- [Official release / Authority / Date]

#### Confidence Grade

Key assertions: [Confirmed/Corroborated/Indicated/Unknown]  
- [one-line why]

#### Call for Information

Do you have documents, transaction traces, corporate records, or firsthand evidence? Submit securely via Whistle42.