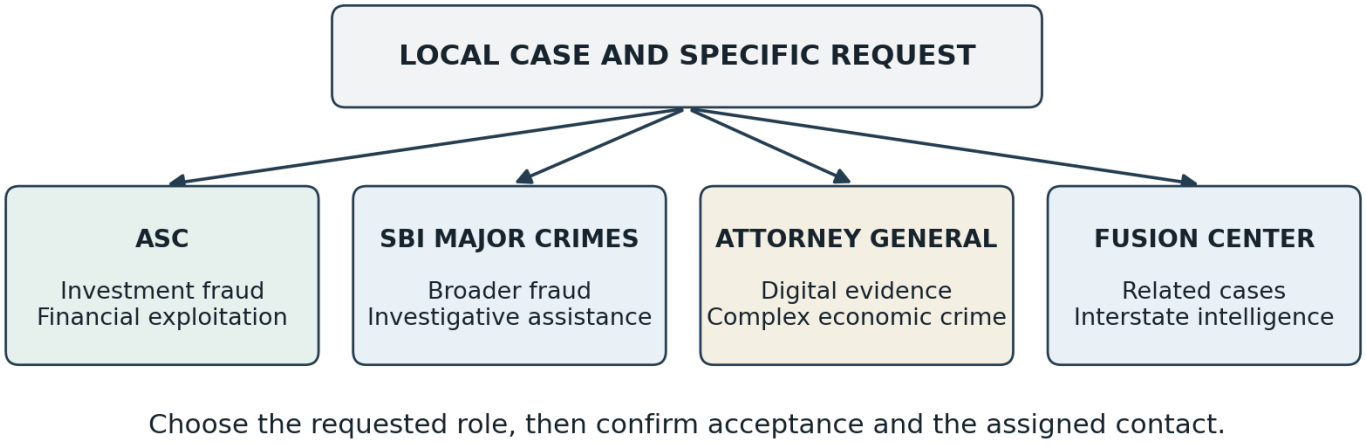
Alabama Financial and Cybercrime Investigation Guide

A practical reference for requesting state assistance and connecting cases across jurisdictions

Prepared for Investigator Hunter J. Aldridge | Reviewed November 1, 2026

Keep a named investigator responsible for the local case while requesting the specific state capability it needs. Alabama has financial investigators, broader fraud investigators, digital evidence support and intelligence analysts. These functions can support the same case, but a referral does not establish that another agency has accepted responsibility. [1-8]



Suggested routing based on published agency roles. Confirm scope, availability and acceptance with the receiving office. [1-8]

Primary state contacts

Office	Published contact	Ask to be routed to
SBI Major Crimes	334-676-7894 sbi.investigations@alea.gov	An agent or supervisor for fraud assistance [1, 2]
Securities Commission	334-242-2984 asc@asc.alabama.gov	Enforcement for investment fraud or exploitation scope review [3, 4]
Attorney General	334-242-7300	Investigations, cyber forensic support or Special Prosecutions [5, 6]
Alabama Fusion Center	334-676-7896 afc@alea.gov	Cybercrime analysis and case links [7, 8]

ALEA states that its website and email are not monitored continuously. Obtain a live contact for urgent requests. These are published office contacts, not confirmed after-hours response channels. [2]

Find the right route: Crime index 2 Immediate response 3 Agency requests 4 Interstate work 5 Offender abroad 6 Referral form 7 Sources 8

Working reference, not an adopted agency policy. Request language, charts and follow-up steps are recommendations. Public sources do not establish internal acceptance thresholds, staffing or response times for an individual case.

Find the route by crime or case pattern

Start with the matching row, then use the linked page for the request and next step. These are investigative descriptions, not a charging chart. Confirm offense elements, venue and legal process with the prosecutor. Routes may overlap.

Case pattern	Suggested first request	Go to
Theft by deception Offender abroad	SBI for broader fraud; ASC if investment-related. Add Fusion Center linkage and prosecutor consultation on foreign evidence.	Page 6
Theft by deception Domestic or unknown offender	Request SBI assistance for work beyond local capacity. Use Fusion Center support when identifiers suggest other cases.	4 / 5
Fake investment or cryptocurrency investment	Ask ASC Enforcement to review the investment and exploitation facts. Cryptocurrency as payment alone does not establish ASC responsibility.	Page 4
Romance or impersonation scam	Prioritize funds and evidence. Request SBI help; add ASC for an investment component and DHR when protective services fit.	3 / 4
Business email compromise or vendor payment diversion	Contact the originating bank immediately. Request SBI assistance; ask the AG about defined digital evidence needs.	3 / 5
Account takeover or unauthorized electronic transfer	Pursue bank records and relevant provider evidence. Request SBI help and AG forensic support if needed.	3 / 5
Identity misuse or fraudulent account opening	Request SBI assistance for the fraud investigation and Fusion Center checks for linked accounts, identities or cases.	4 / 5
Elder exploitation by caregiver or family member	Use local criminal investigation and DHR protection together. Request SBI help; involve ASC where its remit applies.	3 / 4
Ransomware or financial extortion	Request SBI case assistance and ask the AG about available digital forensic support. Coordinate technical response with the affected organization.	5 / 6
Same account or other identifier in several cases	Ask the Fusion Center for related-case analysis and investigator contacts. Agree on a lead and divided tasks with each participating agency.	Page 5

When the first office cannot accept the case

Ask whether it can provide a narrower service, identify another receiving unit, or connect an existing investigation. Record the reason given, the contact and the next review point. Keep local work active until responsibility is explicitly reassigned. Page 7 provides the referral and follow-up fields.

Routing recommendations are based on the agency functions in sources 1-8. Protective-service and urgent-transfer guidance appears in sources 9-13. No route promises acceptance or recovery.

Act while funds and evidence are available

Run financial response, evidence preservation and agency contact in parallel. A pending state referral should not suspend actions your agency can lawfully take. The sequence below is a suggested workflow, not a published response-time standard.

Workstream	At the initial report	During the first contacts	Continue until resolved
Funds	Record the transfer time, amount, destination and next planned payment.	Contact the originating institution through its verified fraud channel. Request recall or available hold review.	Record the actual response, funds status and next banking contact.
Evidence	Preserve original messages, payment instructions, receipts and relevant device information.	Identify provider records at risk and submit preservation requests through authorized channels.	Obtain appropriate legal process and track preservation deadlines.
Agency support	Identify the specific task the local investigation cannot complete alone.	Call the appropriate state office; send a concise referral through its approved channel.	Confirm the assigned role, named contact and next action.

Transfers and suspected elder exploitation

For a fraudulent wire or business email compromise transfer, contact the originating financial institution immediately and request a recall or reversal, including any indemnification paperwork it requires. Supply the exact transaction details. A requested recall is not confirmation that funds were recovered. [13]

Alabama Code § 8-6-193 permits a financial service provider to refuse or delay certain transactions when financial exploitation of an elderly or vulnerable adult is reasonably suspected. Information supplied by law enforcement or DHR can support that decision. Except as ordered by a court, the provider retains discretion. Ask for a documented review under the provision, rather than assuming an officer can impose a hold by request. [9]

For broker-dealer or investment adviser disbursements, § 8-6-176 provides a separate conditional delay process. The statutory period can end earlier, ordinarily reaches no more than 15 business days, and can extend to 25 business days from the original delay at ASC or DHR request. Court relief may extend it further. Confirm the applicable notices, review and deadlines with ASC and the firm. [10]

Preserve records and protect the victim

For covered electronic communication or remote computing providers, 18 U.S.C. § 2703(f) provides for preservation of records already in the provider's possession for 90 days, renewable for another 90 days. Preservation does not itself authorize disclosure, seize funds or create prospective surveillance authority. Track the legal process needed to obtain the records. [12]

Where an adult cannot protect themselves because of mental or physical impairment, involve county DHR for an Adult Protective Services assessment alongside the criminal case. DHR investigates protective concerns and arranges services. State Adult Abuse Hotline: 1-800-458-7214. Age, vulnerability and eligibility should be documented rather than assumed. [11]

Request financial investigative assistance

Alabama Securities Commission

Published role. ASC special agents investigate securities fraud and analyze financial and electronic records. Its complaint process also accepts adult financial-exploitation reports. Confirm whether the facts place the particular scam within its responsibility. [3, 4]

Use it when. A purported investment, fake trading platform, adviser, investment solicitation or retirement-account disbursement creates a relevant connection. Provide the actual representations and payment trail; do not rely on the label “crypto scam” alone.

Request. Ask Enforcement for a scope review, help reconstructing investment transactions, coordination with the investment firm, or a joint investigation if warranted. Identify an imminent disbursement immediately and ask whether the statutory exploitation process applies. [10]

Send. Include the investment pitch, platform and account identifiers, transaction chronology, loss calculation, firm contact and evidence of continued solicitation. Keep actual transfers separate from fictional balances shown on a fraudulent platform.

Confirm before handoff. Obtain the assigned investigator, accepted tasks and any information still needed. ASC says complaint evaluation can take several weeks. If it cannot accept the criminal case, request a relevant specialist referral or narrower assistance, then discuss broader fraud assistance with SBI. [4]

SBI Major Crimes Unit

Published role. The unit investigates fraud and theft along with other crimes. Most investigations originate through a request from another law-enforcement agency or district attorney. [1]

Use it when. The case requires investigative capacity beyond the local agency, coordinated work across Alabama jurisdictions, or assistance with a broader theft or deception scheme. Explain the particular obstacle and the useful next step.

Request. Seek an assigned agent for a defined task, joint investigation or lead-agency review. Ask who may submit the request and whether supervisory or district-attorney involvement is needed. Those intake details must be confirmed directly.

Send. Provide the Alabama connection, deception or unauthorized conduct, transaction records, suspect leads, other jurisdictions, existing referrals and tasks already completed. Explain what remains actionable now.

If full assistance is declined. Ask whether a limited task is available, whether another unit is appropriate, and what additional facts could justify review. Record the response. A request to the Fusion Center can still seek case connections without transferring the criminal investigation.

Frame the case beyond a single loss

Show documented links to other victims, repeated accounts, ongoing solicitation and additional funds at risk. Label suspected links as unconfirmed. Present each verified victim loss separately before showing an aggregate, and avoid counting the same transfer twice. These facts support an informed decision without assuming an unpublished dollar threshold.

Use technical support and connect states

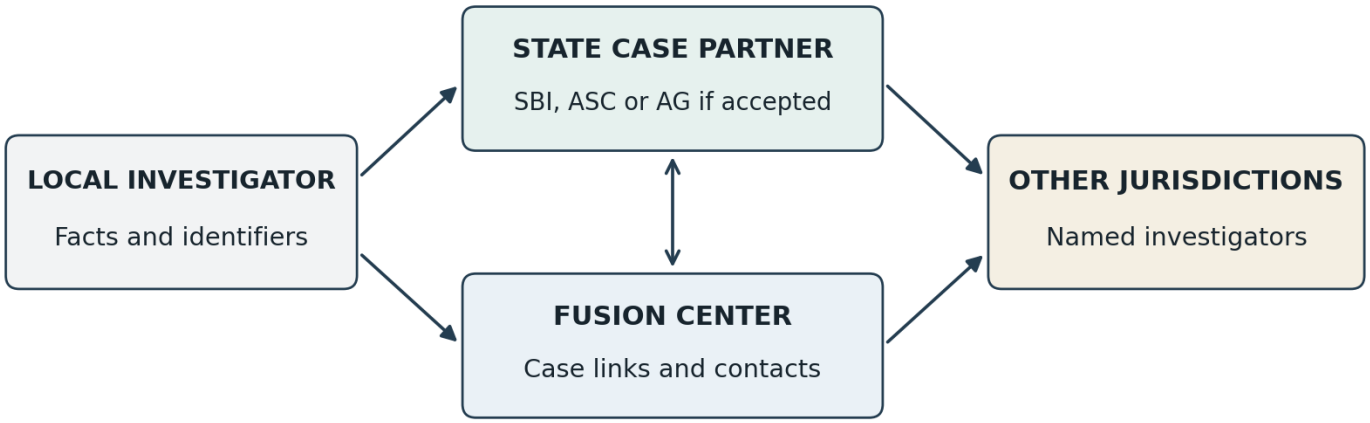
Attorney General Investigations and Special Prosecutions

The Investigations Division assists criminal matters and offers digital investigative and forensic support through its cybercrime lab. Special Prosecutions handles complex economic crimes and joint investigations. [5, 6] Call 334-242-7300 and identify the requested function.

For a forensic request, specify the device or records, the question to be answered, urgency and the authority supporting examination. Ask about current capability, intake requirements and turnaround before transferring evidence. For a complex economic case, coordinate with your prosecutor and ask about joint investigative or prosecutorial assistance. Confirm separately whether the office will support the local case or consider taking a larger role.

Alabama Fusion Center

The center provides cybercrime intelligence support. ALEA describes information requests involving records and analysis, often with other fusion centers, and assistance requests involving more extensive linkage or analytical work. [7, 8] Ask for a related-case search, an analytical product or introductions to investigators in the relevant states.



Suggested coordination structure. Intelligence assistance and acceptance of investigative responsibility are separate decisions. [7, 8]

Make a match useful to investigators

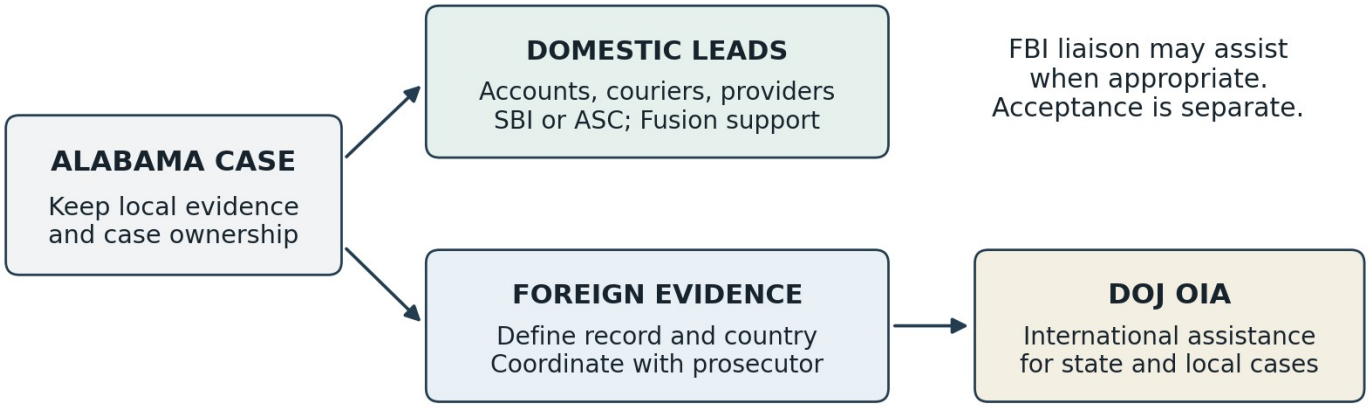
Send exact identifiers with their source and dates: receiving account details, transaction IDs, wallet addresses with the blockchain identified, telephone numbers, email addresses, domains and usernames. Specify the lawful investigative purpose and any handling restrictions. Ask how to submit these through an approved channel.

Treat a match as a lead until verified. A shared payment service, recycled telephone number or spoofed identity may not establish a common offender. Obtain the other agency's case number and investigator, compare original records, and agree who will pursue each lead.

Before joint work begins, agree on the case lead, evidence custodian, task assignments and next update. Discuss venue and charging with the prosecutors. When support is unavailable, ask for a narrower search or an appropriate counterpart contact and retain the local follow-up responsibility.

Theft by deception with an offender abroad

Continue the Alabama investigation. Ask SBI about broader fraud assistance, or ASC when investment facts fit. Use the Fusion Center to seek related cases. Identify the specific overseas assistance needed while pursuing available domestic leads.



Suggested route for a state or local case with an overseas component. Foreign assistance does not require assuming a federal agency has adopted the entire case. [15-17]

Establish what is actually overseas

Separate claimed location from verified facts. A telephone code, IP address or transfer destination alone does not establish the offender's location. List domestic receiving accounts, couriers, entities and providers that remain available for lawful investigation.

Use the international evidence route

The DOJ Office of International Affairs, or OIA, assists state and local authorities with foreign evidence and serves as the United States central authority for mutual legal assistance treaties. Coordinate with your prosecutor and ask OIA which route fits the country and records needed. Direct line: 202-616-9682, weekdays 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. as published. [16, 17]

Provide the country, institution, identifiers, date range, offense facts, Alabama connection, intended evidentiary use and urgency. Ask about preservation and compulsory process. Do not assume domestic process is sufficient for foreign records.

Use federal liaison for a defined need

FBI overseas liaison supports cooperation with foreign authorities, whose participation governs investigative activity and arrests abroad. [15] FBI Birmingham covers Northern Alabama: 205-326-6166. [18] Specify the assistance sought, state partners and domestic leads. Federal adoption remains a separate decision.

Retain any IC3 complaint details. IC3 analyzes and disseminates reports; it does not itself investigate or provide case-status updates. [14]

If the case is not accepted

Continue domestic leads and preservation work. Discuss OIA consultation or narrower liaison assistance with the state partner and prosecutor. Record any stated reason for nonacceptance and resubmit material new facts, such as another verified victim or a reachable suspect. Nonresponse does not establish acceptance or closure.

Referral summary and follow through

Reusable worksheet. Replace bracketed fields and send through the receiving agency's approved channel. This is suggested request language, not an official agency form.

To: [Office and named contact] Date and time: [Date, time and zone]
From: [Investigator, agency, official telephone and email]
Local case number: [Number] Prosecutor contact: [Name or pending]
Subject: Request for [specific assistance] in [case type]

Facts and the decision needed

Our agency is investigating [conduct] affecting [victim or victims] with an Alabama connection of [facts]. The verified loss is [amount]; additional funds at risk are [amount or unknown]. The latest transaction occurred on [date and time]. We request [specific task] because [investigative need]. The time-sensitive issue is [facts and actual deadline].

Offender location: [Unknown, suspected or verified; identify supporting evidence]
Other jurisdictions and cases: [Agency, case number, contact and verified link]
Work completed: [Records obtained, preservation requests, bank contact and interviews]
Requested role: [Task assistance, forensic support, analytical support, joint investigation or lead review]

Attach the information needed for that request

Attachment	Include
Case chronology	Dated events, method of deception or unauthorized conduct, and present risk.
Transaction schedule	Amount, date and time zone, account or wallet, transaction ID, source record and current status.
Evidence index	Originals retained, working copies supplied, collection details and applicable process.
Linked-case summary	Verified matches, other investigators and separate, nonduplicated victim losses.
Open tasks	Exact records, examinations, coordination or decisions requested; existing referral numbers.

Close the communication loop

Please confirm receipt, whether your office can provide the requested assistance, the assigned contact and any additional material required. If the request is outside your scope or capacity, please identify any narrower assistance or appropriate receiving office. We will retain responsibility for the local investigation unless a different arrangement is expressly agreed.

Contact and date	Disposition and accepted task	Next action and owner	Due or follow-up date
[Enter]	[Pending / accepted / declined]	[Enter]	[Enter]
[Enter]	[Task or reason provided]	[Enter]	[Enter]

Proposed follow-up practice: call promptly when funds are still moving or evidence is at risk. Otherwise set a specific review date with the receiving office. If no acknowledgment arrives by that point, use your supervisory chain and the receiving unit's supervisor to confirm disposition. These are working practices, not published service deadlines.

Sources and verification

Official sources reviewed November 1, 2026. Reference numbers in the guide link the advice to these authorities. Titles below are clickable in the electronic copies. The crime index and workflow charts apply the published roles; they are not agency-approved intake rules.

01 ALEA Major Crimes Unit
Fraud and theft responsibilities; requests from law enforcement or district attorneys.

02 ALEA SBI contact information
Office numbers, emails and limits on continuous monitoring.

03 ASC Enforcement Division
Investigative work involving financial records and securities fraud.

04 ASC complaint procedure
Reporting scope, contact details and possible evaluation delay.

05 Attorney General Investigations Division
Criminal investigative and cyber forensic support.

06 Attorney General Special Prosecutions Division
Complex economic crimes and joint investigations.

07 Alabama Fusion Center
Cybercrime personnel and information-sharing role.

08 ALEA Fiscal Year 2025 Annual Report
Printed page 16, intelligence requests, case analysis and other fusion centers.

09 Alabama Code §§ 8-6-190 through 8-6-195
Definitions and financial-provider authority; particularly § 8-6-193.

10 Alabama Code §§ 8-6-170 through 8-6-179
Investment-firm reporting and disbursement delay; particularly § 8-6-176.

11 Alabama DHR Adult Services FAQs
Protective-service purpose, reporting and hotline.

12 18 U.S.C. § 2703
Subsection (f), preservation of covered provider records.

13 IC3 Business Email Compromise
Immediate bank recall or reversal request and related documentation.

14 IC3 Frequently Asked Questions
Complaint handling, evidence retention and investigation-status limitations.

15 FBI International Operations
Foreign liaison, host-country cooperation and investigative authority.

16 DOJ OIA Foreign Evidence FAQs
International assistance for state and federal criminal authorities.

17 DOJ OIA contact information
Published direct telephone line and office hours.

18 FBI Birmingham
Northern Alabama field office and published telephone number.

Before operational use, confirm current contacts, intake procedures, secure submission methods and the controlling law with the receiving office and prosecutor. No agency contact or case submission was made in preparing this guide.