



PRESS RELEASE

CSA CLARIFIES GHANA'S LEADERSHIP OF "OPERATION BLACKOUT"

The Cyber Security Authority (CSA) has taken notice of a post on X by the Director of the United States Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), Mr. Kashyap Pramod Patel, concerning "Operation Blackout" in Ghana. The Authority rejects any portrayal of the operation as independently conceived, commanded or executed by the FBI.

"Operation Blackout" also referred to as "Operation Cyber Hunt," was led and coordinated by the CSA with support from Ghana's National Security Council, the Criminal Investigations Department (CID) of the Ghana Police Service, the National Crime Agency (NCA) of the United Kingdom, the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission of Nigeria (EFCC), the Joint Case Team on Cybercrime (JCTC), the Ghana Immigration Service, and the Office of the Attorney-General.

A Ghanaian Operation Under Ghanaian Authority

Ghanaian authorities planned, coordinated and executed the operation within Ghana's legal and institutional frameworks, and it thus cannot be said to be conceived as part of an FBI-led global programme, neither was it conducted under a foreign operational command.

Ghana's Sovereignty and Jurisdiction

Ghana is a sovereign Republic governed by its Constitution and laws. Foreign law enforcement agencies have no independent authority to exercise police powers or conduct arrests within Ghana. Their participation must take place through lawful cooperation, with the authorisation and involvement of relevant Ghanaian authorities.

Partnership Built on Mutual Respect

The CSA acknowledges the valuable intelligence contributions of the FBI and the NCA. These partnerships support Ghana's efforts to combat transnational cybercrime and remain important to effective investigations and operations.

However, the contribution of international partners must be described accurately. **The CSA calls upon the FBI to clarify its public account of the Ghana-led operation and acknowledge the contributions of the Ghanaian institutions and other international partners responsible for its execution.**

The Authority remains available for constructive engagement to ensure that the public record reflects the respective roles of all participating agencies.



Operation Cyber Hunt

The operation uncovered suspected cybercrime centres in parts of the Greater Accra Region, leading to the arrest of eight (8) suspects and the rescue of one hundred and twenty (120) others who authorities suspect have been trafficked and exploited for online fraud activities.

It followed intelligence received on August 26, 2026, indicating that several apartments at Ubuntu Haven Estate in Kpone Katamanso, Franko Estate in Ga North, and other locations in Ga West were being used as bases for organised cybercrime, including romance scams.

Items seized in the operation included 136 mobile phones, 130 laptops, internet connection devices, four motor vehicles, one of which was stolen from Canada, and other digital equipment. The search team also recovered high-value items, including jewellery and ten (10) Nigerian passports.

Authorities are working to repatriate the rescued victims, identified largely as Nigerians, whilst investigations into the suspects and the seized digital devices are ongoing.

Ghana will not be a Safe Haven for Cybercriminals

Ghana remains committed to dismantling cybercriminal networks and protecting the public from online fraud and other cyber-enabled crimes.

The CSA will continue to strengthen intelligence-led investigations, inter-agency coordination, digital forensic capabilities and international cooperation. The protection of victims, preservation of evidence, observance of due process and prosecution of offenders remain central to this work.

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