

FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF FINANCIAL SERVICES
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER
Chief Financial Officer Directive 2023-03

WHEREAS, the Department of Financial Services (Department) houses the Division (Division) of Unclaimed Property, which retains financial assets that are lost, inactive, unclaimed, or abandoned by their owner.

WHEREAS, the Division has remitted more than \$2.1 billion dollars since Chief Financial Officer (CFO) Patronis took office. The CFO currently holds unclaimed property claimable accounts valued at \$2 billion from inactive bank accounts, insurance and utility companies and trust holdings.

WHEREAS, Harakat al-Muqawama al-Islamiya (Hamas) is a political militant group, which the United States Secretary of State has designated a Foreign Terrorist Organization that is headquartered in Gaza City and is in control of and governs Gaza.

WHEREAS, Hamas operates an Islamist militant movement in the Gaza and West Bank regions that uses violence and terrorism as a means to achieve their political goals. They remain committed to violently resisting Israel, and are known to seize humanitarian aid delivered to Gaza as a means of furthering their terroristic activity.

WHEREAS, Hamas invaded and attacked Israel, most recently on October 7, 2023, and have continued to attack since. These barbaric attacks include indiscriminate killing of Israeli civilians and foreign nationals, including children.

WHEREAS, Hamas has killed thousands of people, wounded thousands more, kidnapped hundreds from Israel and fired thousands of rockets from Gaza into Jerusalem and Tel Aviv in the span of weeks.

WHEREAS, Hamas's assault on southern Israel on October 7th was the largest attack on Israel's soil and the Jewish community since the Holocaust. A number of Americans have also been killed, injured, and kidnapped. Hamas calls for the eradication and destruction of Israel and terror against the Jewish community, specifically.

WHEREAS, CFO Patronis denounces these hateful attacks on innocent Israeli civilians.

WHEREAS, the State of Florida stands with the Israeli people and the global Jewish community.

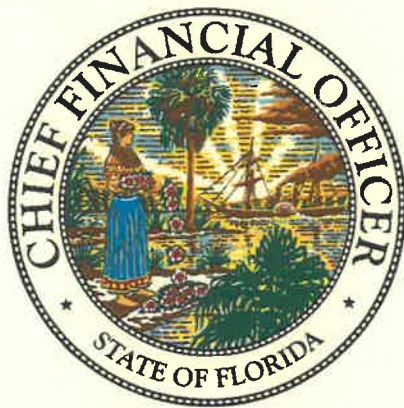
WHEREAS, Hamas has financial support from various countries through funding, weapons and training.


WHEREAS, the Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC) has implemented sanctions on Iran, Lebanon and Syria.

WHEREAS, the Department houses the Division of Unclaimed Property, which, exists to return unclaimed property assets to their legal owner.

WHEREAS, Section 775.33, Florida Statutes, prohibits the Department from providing “Material support or resources” to a Foreign Terrorist Organization.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT I, JIMMY PATRONIS, in accordance with the authority invested in me by Article IV, Section 4 of the Florida Constitution, and Sections 17.30 and 20.121(1), Florida Statutes, I hereby Direct the Division of Unclaimed Property to refrain from delivering any unclaimed property assets to the region of Gaza until such time as the region is no longer controlled by the Foreign Terrorist Organization, known as “Hamas”, the regions of Iran, Lebanon and Syria until such time as the regions are no longer sanctioned by the United States of America in accordance with the Office of Foreign Assets Control and I hereby direct the Division of Unclaimed Property to prioritize returning unclaimed property assets to the region of Israel.





Jimmy Patronis
Chief Financial Officer
State of Florida