



# WAEVER GROUP

INTELLIGENT SECURITY

## Due Diligence Screening Report

Dated: 12 December 2019

**CLIENT SECRET – LIMITED DISTRIBUTION**

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## **Conclusion**

- Waever Group was requested to conduct a comprehensive investigation into an individual on the popular online freelance marketplace 'Freelancer.com'. The individual – referred to as 'Medgenie' – is suspected of being the same person, or linked to Adam Gefvert – a subject of a separate investigation.
- The searches conducted during the course of the investigation included a wide range of technical softwares designed to scan open and dark web sources. It should be noted that the level of information obtained to support this report was limited to a small number of factual web artefacts that were used to produce the concluding assessment contained herein.
- Our analysis of the 'Freelancer.com' profile associated with the target indicated that 'Medgenie' claimed to be located in Victoria Island in Nigeria.
- The profile picture attached to the 'Freelancer.com' profile associated with 'Medgenie' was found to have been widely used across the internet, therefore indicating that it is not a true image of the individual referred to as 'Medgenie'. It is likely that the individual responsible for the 'Freelancer.com' profile used the profile picture from 4chan.org.
- A thorough search of open and dark web sources found no further information concerning 'Medgenie', this lack of information leads us to assess that the profile is likely a fake persona – technically referred to as a 'Sock Puppet' account.
- The use of 'Sock Puppets' is quite often attributed to individuals engaged in spreading disinformation aimed at damaging government, corporations and people. Whilst most people will assume that this tactic is limited to state-sponsored actors, we have observed instances where disgruntled individuals or individuals paid by businesses often use this tactic to discredit their competitors.
- When considering that Gefvert seeks to use his 'Seeking Angel' profile and his business page, White Diamond Research LLC, to spread damaging and malicious news reports concerning businesses, is it realistic to assume that he would use 'Sock Puppets' in order to give his platform and reports greater credibility. Gefvert would highly likely use such 'Sock Puppets' to spread such information as well as collect sensitive corporate information by means of social engineering.

## **Recommendations – Road Map**

- It could be considered that the 'Medgenie' profile on 'Freelancer.com' is a 'Sock Puppet' account that has been created by Gefvert. However, further investigation is required in order to obtain further information that would indicate the extent of Gefvert's use of this tactic as a means to spread disinformation and extract sensitive information.
- Based on the serious nature of the current investigation concerning Gefvert, further enquiries should be made with regards to his modus operandi in order to identify whether he has engaged in activities that may draw parallels with the assuming of false identities as a means to extract information.
- The development and implementation of a social engineering campaign should be considered to be conducted against 'Medgenie' in order to further identify his or her true identity. This could be conducted by making direct contact with 'Medgenie' through 'Freelancer.com' with a view to offering work and using this as the basis to obtain further information.
- The likely use of 'Sock Puppets' by Gefvert increases the risk he poses through the use of social engineering. His use of this capability indicates a credible threat that should be addressed across the entire business environment. Specifically, training and guidance should be provided in order to reduce this risk and to ensure that an incident reporting and response capability is efficiently established that would ensure that people know how and how to report suspicious activity, and the appropriate response that should be taken.

## **Context of Report**

Waever Group was requested to initiate an investigation into a suspicious individual and to further ascertain that person's true identity. The overall aim of the investigation is to prove or disprove as to whether the aforementioned

individual is connected to a separate ongoing case. Waever Group was provided with the individual's 'Freelander.com' URL<sup>1</sup>, the target URL of this investigation resolved to a profile of an individual referring to himself as 'Medgenie'.

## **Our Understanding**

### **The Evidence**

For the purpose of conducting a fair screening investigation, minimal information was provided by Waever Group to the Open Source Intelligence Investigator with the exception of the individual's 'Freelancer.com' profile.

### **Methodology**

The majority of information has been obtained through the use of advanced Open Source Intelligence. Our specific methods are protected due to the sensitive software and techniques we use to obtain information from openly available sources.

## **Our Findings**

### **Freelancer.com**

Upon accessing the target URL associated with 'Medgenie's' profile, the individual claims to be an 'Experienced Shopify Developer/Dropshipping Guru'. Within his profile, the individual makes a further series of claims indicating that he has a wide variety of web developing and SEO<sup>2</sup> experience. The individual's profile further indicates that 'Medgenie' is a resident of Victoria Island in Nigeria, located to the south of capital city, Lagos<sup>3</sup>. Due to security restrictions that exist on 'Freelancer.com', it is impossible to obtain further information beyond what is already provided on the target profile page without serving an official court order to the 'Freelancer.com' webmasters. The profile also contained a profile picture that was subsequently analysed. The image used by 'Medgenie' has been used on several other webpages, including 4chan<sup>4</sup> (as indicates at Appendix A).

## **Conclusion**

It can be argued that the individual associated with the 'Medgenie' profile on 'Freelancer.com' could be associated with a previous case concerning Adam Gefvert. Our assessment is based on our experience and knowledge of dealing with individuals engaged in spreading disinformation as a means of manipulating public opinion and trade markets. It is known that such individuals often cultivate fake personalities in order to spread false information and make it appear as though a falsehood is actually true. Individuals engaged in spreading disinformation create what is known as 'Sock Puppet' social media accounts – such accounts are incredibly easy to create with the aide of online web platforms that can essentially create a fake persona complete with address, date of birth, social security numbers and career histories. Other online platforms can provide people with the means to chose a computer generate image of person by combining the facial features of other people.

It is assessed that the use of 'Sock Puppets' by Gefvert would serve a variety of purposes that would essentially ensure that he has the ability to spread disinformation through these means. Another use of a 'Sock Puppet' by Gefvert is that it would enable him to use this capability to either gain access to individuals close to his intended target and extract inside information by means of social engineering. Therefore, it is assessed as likely that the 'Freelancer.com' account with the username 'Medgenie' is associated by Gefvert based on the aforementioned considerations and the lack of overwhelming evidence that would suggest otherwise.

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.dk.freelancer.com/u/Medgenie>

<sup>2</sup> Search Engine Optimisation

<sup>3</sup> [google.co.uk/maps/place/Victoria+Island,+Lagos/@6.3769061,3.0764041,9.75z/data=!4m5!3m4!1s0x103bf53280e7648d:0x4d01e5de6b847fe5!8m2!3d6.4280556!4d3.4219444](https://www.google.co.uk/maps/place/Victoria+Island,+Lagos/@6.3769061,3.0764041,9.75z/data=!4m5!3m4!1s0x103bf53280e7648d:0x4d01e5de6b847fe5!8m2!3d6.4280556!4d3.4219444)

<sup>4</sup> 4chan.org

## Appendix A

Results of reverse image search conducted against profile picture associated with target 'Freelancer.com' profile.




Image size:  
280 × 279

Find other sizes of this image:  
All sizes - Small

Possible related search: [4chan coalburners](#)

[/pol/ - Politically Incorrect » Thread #142227410 - 4plebs](#)  
<https://archive.4plebs.org/pol/thread> ▼

Sep 20, 2017 - [4chan](#) · Index · By Post · By Thread ... Is there such a thing as 'coalburner face'? Anonymous ... What about [coalburners](#)? Has /pol/ been able to ...


[Politically Incorrect » Thread #163196005](#) 8 Mar 2018  
[Politically Incorrect » Thread #122661249](#) 24 Apr 2017  
[Politically Incorrect » Thread #106870178](#) 12 Jan 2017  
[Politically Incorrect » Thread #155594529](#) 4 Jan 2018  
[More results from archive.4plebs.org](#)

[coal burner - Urban Dictionary](#)  
<https://www.urbandictionary.com/define> ▼

A "Coalburner" is a white girl who is spoiled rotten and rebels against her wealthy or middle class parents for some imagined affront sometime in their short lives.

Pages that include matching images

[#coalburners tagged Tweets and Downloader | Twipu](#)  
<https://www.twipu.com/tag/coalburners> ▼



640 × 1136 - Explore Tweets tagged as [#coalburners](#) - Download Videos and Photos | Twipu. ... [#American](#) to [#get](#) some <http://boards.4chan.org/pol/thread/156274128> ...

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