



FINTECH PHILIPPINES  
ASSOCIATION

# TRUST TECH NEWSLETTER

January 2026

Dear Member,

I'm excited to present you this month's Trust Tech Committee newsletter. Each month, the committee delivers exclusive updates that are redefining financial security and strengthening customer trust.

This edition features the **AML Intelligence Review for Southeast Asia 2025** and **the Road Ahead**, which assesses how AML controls perform under real operating conditions. Drawing on regional data, the report shows that alert volume does not equal risk coverage, as coordinated, high-velocity laundering often completes its lifecycle before intervention—underscoring the shift toward earlier, intelligence-led prevention as the region moves into 2026.

For **Scam Watch**, it spotlights "**When Winning Stopped Making Sense: Inside the Crown Casino Deception**," a technology-assisted fraud uncovered in Australia in October 2025, where a visiting couple allegedly accumulated over A\$1.17 million in winnings at Crown Sydney. Using covert recording devices and concealed earpieces for real-time external guidance, the scheme exploited behavioural and monitoring gaps on the casino floor, operating in plain sight before authorities intervened in late November—highlighting how coordinated fraud can unfold rapidly in physical environments before detection systems catch up.

For the **AFC Community Corner**, this edition of Fincrime Files explores how **Account Takeover (ATO)** enables high-velocity laundering across both corporate and consumer channels. From BEC and payroll platform compromises to biometric spoofing and synthetic identity abuse, attackers rapidly divert payments and loans through wallets, mule networks, and cross-border rails—showing how ATO now allows laundering to outpace traditional controls.

I invite you to be a member of the committee and be part of a community that strives to navigate the complex landscape of anti-money laundering and fraud prevention, empowering all financial institutions in the Philippines to stay ahead of financial crimes.

**Abhishek Chatterjee**  
Trust Tech Committee Chairperson  
Founder & CEO, Tookitaki

## Member Benefits



Priority Access to  
Trust Tech Events

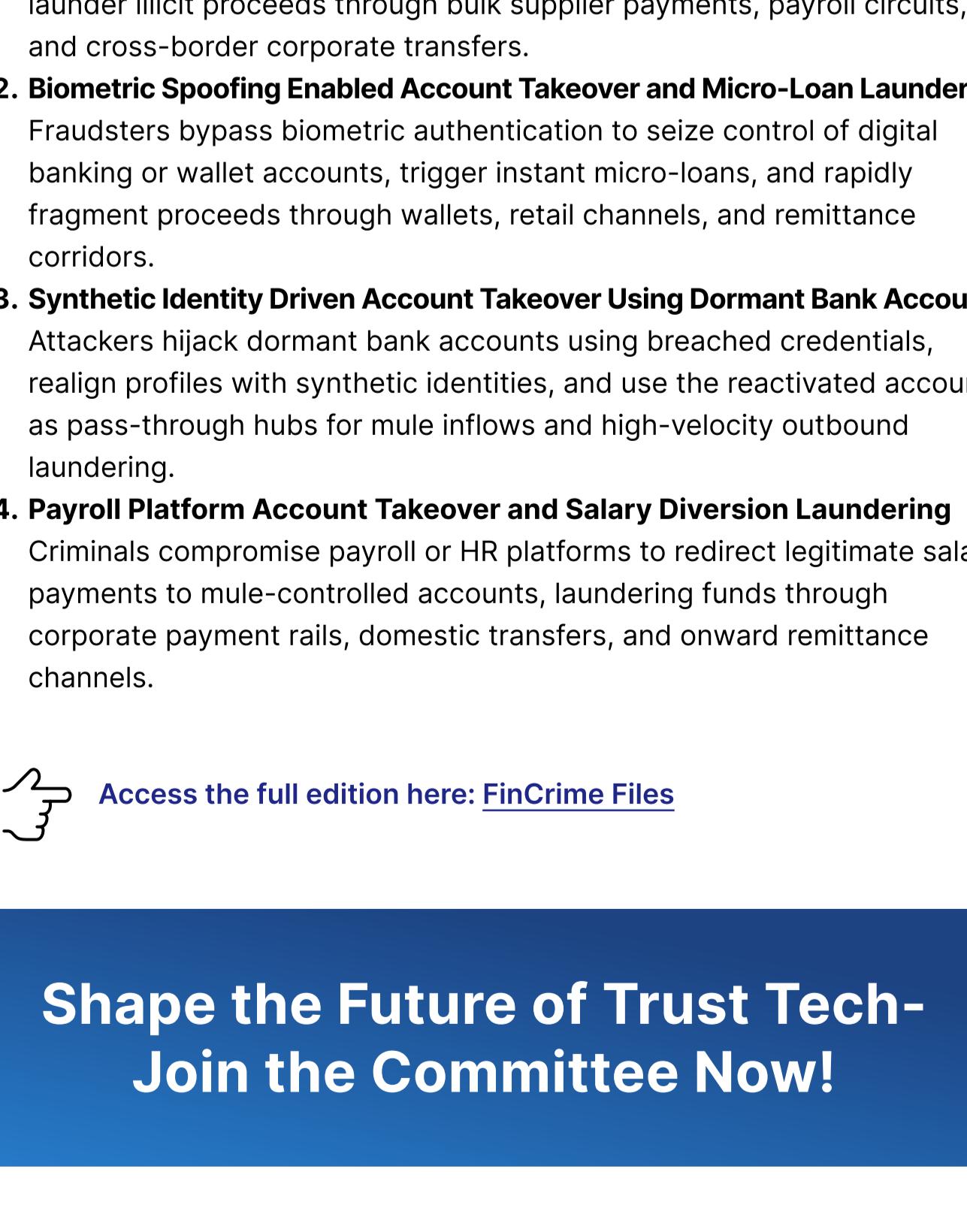


Active Participation  
in AFC Community  
Dialogues



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FinCrime Newsletters

## Anti-Money Laundering Report



**AML Intelligence Review for Southeast Asia 2025 and the Road Ahead**

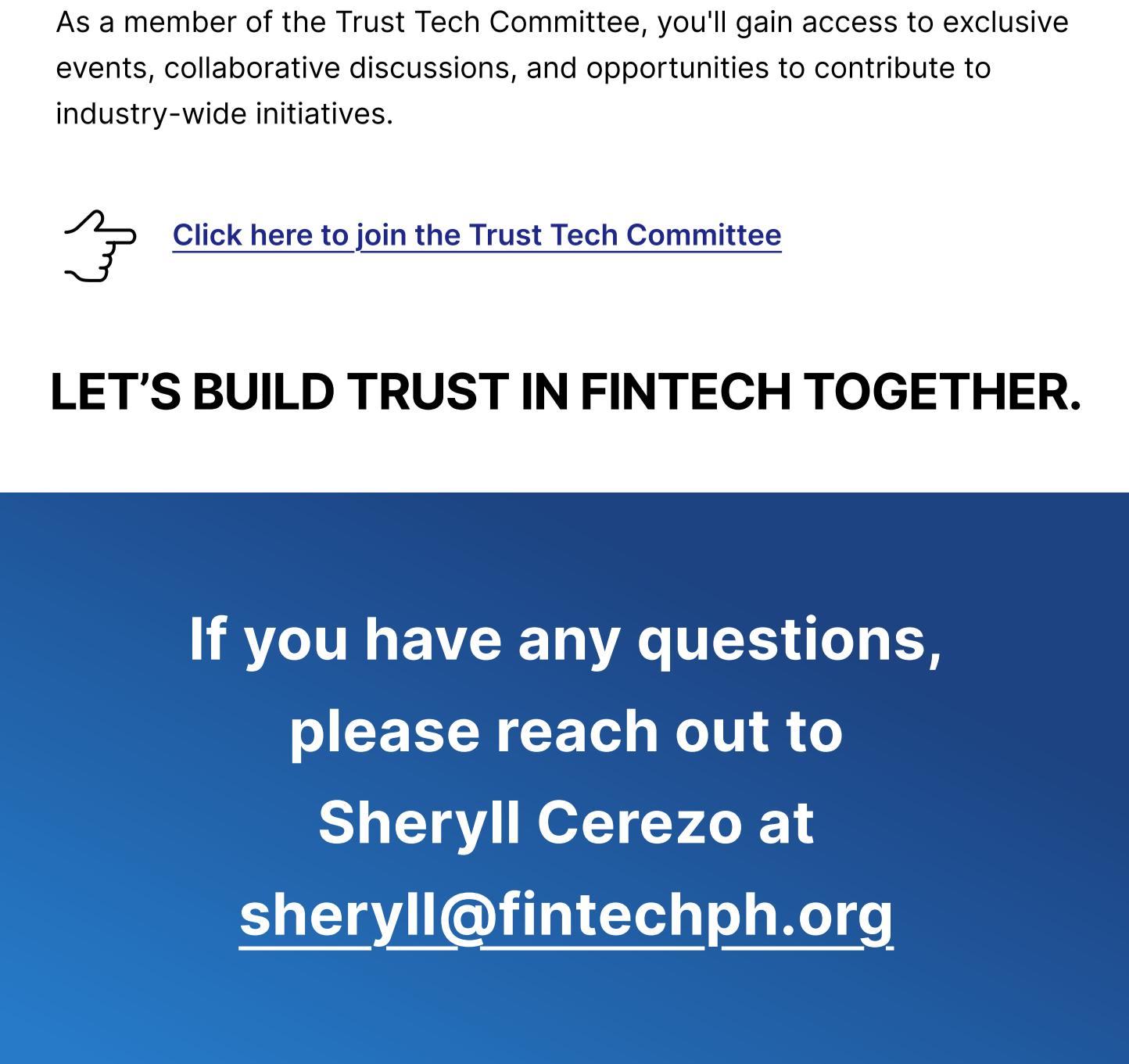
This report examines how AML controls perform under real operating conditions. It maps where alerts cluster, where conversion into STRs weakens, and how laundering networks increasingly exploit speed, fragmentation, and coordination to exit the system before intervention.

**What the data reveals:** Alert volume does not equate to risk coverage. Many familiar scenarios are well defended, yet coordinated, high-velocity flows continue to evade detection by completing their lifecycle faster than traditional investigation timelines.

**The shift ahead:** Effective AML programmes will prioritise scenario efficiency over volume, intervene earlier in the transaction lifecycle, and move decisively toward intelligence-led prevention rather than post-incident recovery as the region enters 2026.

Access the full report here: [AML Intelligence Report](#)

## Scam Watch



**"When Winning Stopped Making Sense: Inside the Crown Casino Deception"**

In October 2025, Australian authorities uncovered an unusual fraud case at Crown Sydney, where a visiting couple allegedly accumulated over A\$1.17 million in casino winnings through a coordinated, technology-assisted deception. Using covert recording devices and concealed earpieces, the suspects reportedly exploited behavioural gaps in casino oversights before being arrested in late November.

**Why it matters:** The Crown Casino case highlights how modern fraud does not always originate online. By exploiting trust in physical presence, short-term behavioural baselines, and fragmented monitoring, coordinated schemes can operate openly while masking deception behind probability and chance. The mechanics closely mirror high-velocity fraud and account takeover orchestration seen in financial services.

**What to watch for:** Probability-defying outcomes over short periods, highly consistent decision patterns, covert device usage, non-verbal coordination, and rapid accumulation of high-value gains. Institutions should closely monitor compressed timelines, behavioural precision where randomness is expected, and early intent to convert or move value across borders.

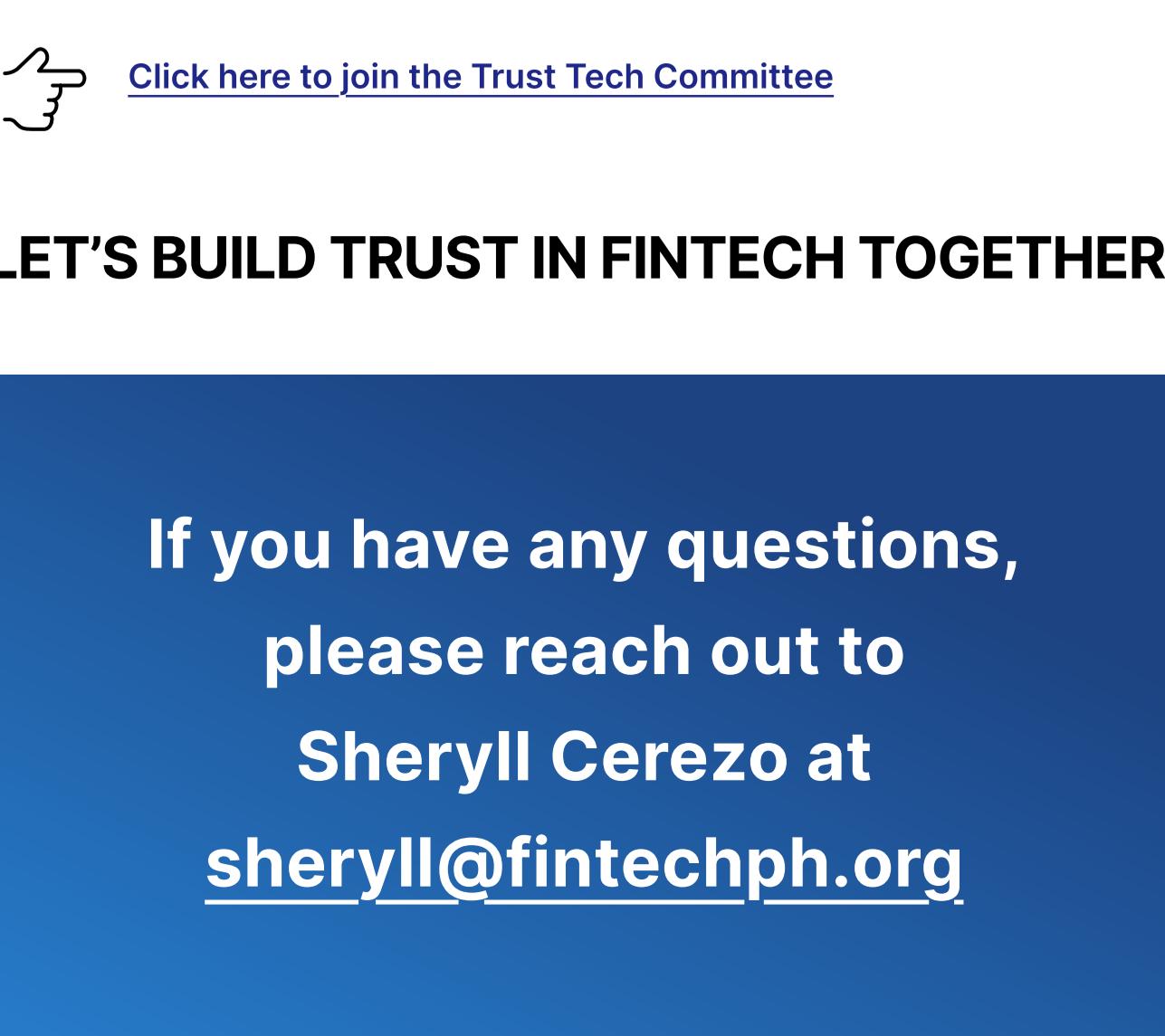
Access the full blog here: [Crown Casino Deception](#)

## AFC Community Corner



AFC Ecosystem

Theme of the Month



**Account Takeover (ATO) Fraud**

In this edition of Fincrime Files, the AFC community dives deep into key scenarios covered under **Account Takeover (ATO) Fraud**.

**1. BEC-Enabled Account Takeover and Supplier Payment Laundering**

Criminals compromise corporate finance email accounts to take over business banking access, manipulate supplier payment details, and launder illicit proceeds through bulk supplier payments, payroll circuits, and cross-border transfers.

**2. Biometric Spoofing Enabled Account Takeover and Micro-Loan Laundering**

Fraudsters bypass biometric authentication to seize control of rapidly changing or wallet accounts, trigger instant micro-loans, and rapidly fund proceeds through wallets, retail channels, and remittance corridors.

**3. Synthetic Identity Driven Account Takeover Using Dormant Bank Accounts**

Attackers hijack dormant bank accounts using breached credentials, realign profiles with synthetic identities, and use the reactivated accounts as pass-through hubs for mule inflows and high-velocity outbound laundering.

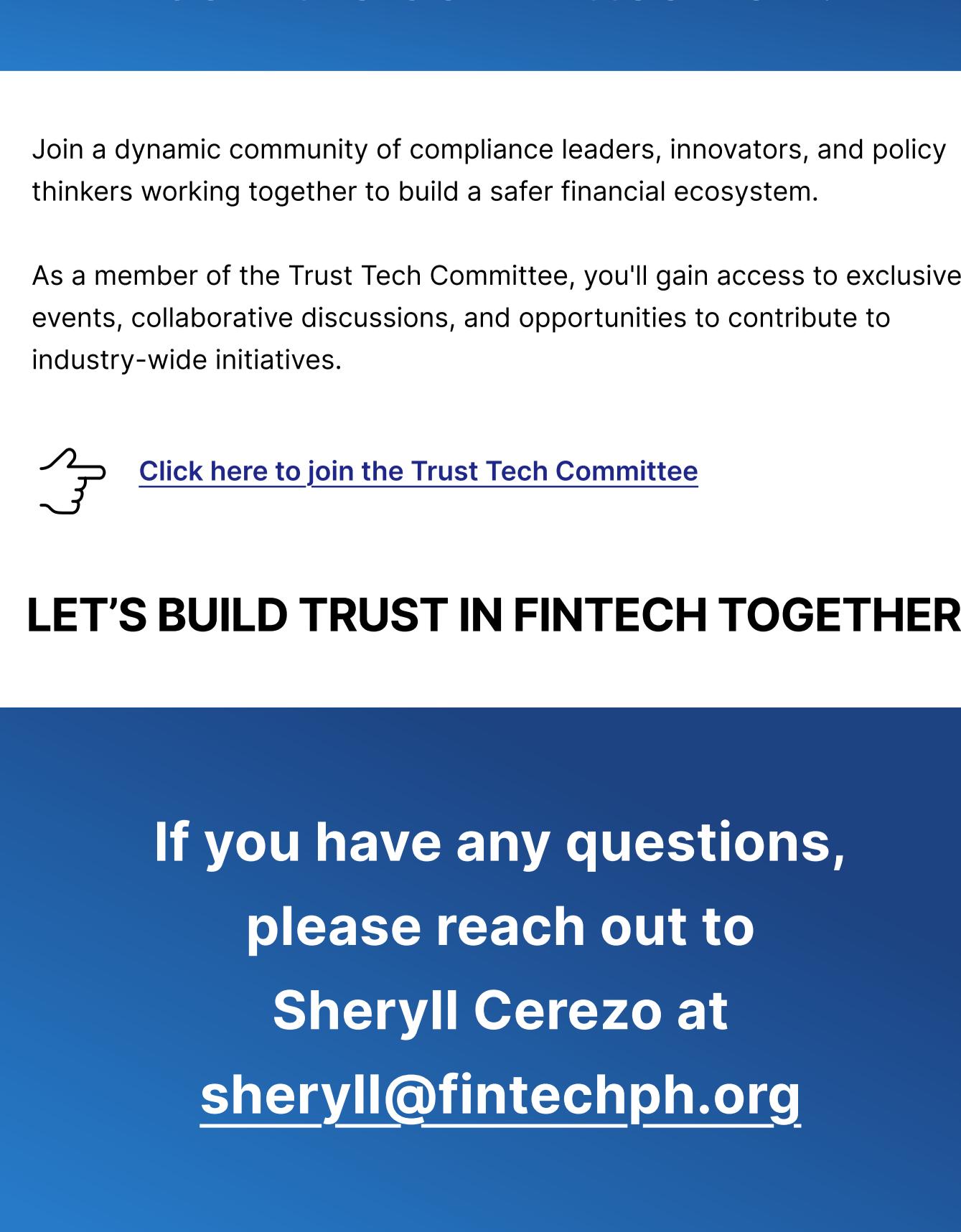
**4. Payroll Platform Account Takeover and Salary Diversion Laundering**

Criminals compromise payroll or HR platforms to redirect legitimate salary payments to mule-controlled accounts, laundering funds through corporate payment rails, domestic transfers, and onward remittance channels.

Access the full edition here: [FinCrime Files](#)



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**LET'S BUILD TRUST IN FINTECH TOGETHER.**

**If you have any questions, please reach out to**

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