

Our reference
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**Republic of Vanuatu
State Law Office**

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To AML&CTF Compliance Officer

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Guidance Note No. 5 of 2020

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REPORTING LARGE CASH TRANSACTION

This Guidance Note is issued in relation to section 27 of the Anti-Money Laundering & Counter-Terrorism Financing Act No. 13 of 2014.

Reporting entities **MUST** make a report to the Director on **cash** transaction that exceeds the prescribed threshold or its equivalent in foreign currency, whether the transaction is conducted as a single transaction or two or more transactions that appear to be linked.

The prescribed thresholds are as follows as set out in Clause 12(1) and (2) of the AML&CTF Regulation Order 122 of 2014 (as amended):

- **1,000,000VT or its equivalent in foreign currency** is applicable to all other reporting entities that are not mentioned in the below categories.
- **300,000VT or its equivalent in foreign currency** for: a person licensed under the Vanuatu Interactive Gaming Act [CAP 261]; a person licensed under the Casino (Control) Act [CAP 223] and a person carrying on a business under the Gaming (Control) Act [CAP 172] or the Lotteries Act [CAP 205].
- **200,000VT or its equivalent in foreign currency for:** a person carrying on a business of exchanging currency or value; or collecting, holding, exchanging or transferring currency or value, or otherwise negotiating transfers of currency or value on behalf of other persons.
- **500,000VT or its equivalent in foreign currency for:** a person carrying on the business of dealing in real estate or sale or hire of motor vehicles.

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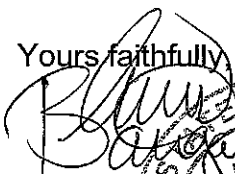
However, there are some exceptions to this obligation such that:

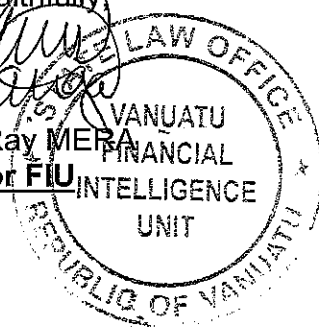
- It does not apply if the originator and beneficiary of the transaction are reporting entities under section 2 of the Act, acting on their own behalf; and
- A reporting entity **MAY** apply in writing to the Director to be exempted if the transactions are deposits or withdrawals by an established customer of that reporting entity.

The penalties if a reporting entity fails to comply are:

- In the case of an individual – a fine not exceeding VT2,500,000 million or an imprisonment term not exceeding 2 years or both; or
- in the case of a body corporate – a fine not exceeding VT10 million

Yours faithfully


Floyd Ray MERA
Director FIU



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