



# State of North Carolina

## Office of the State Controller

DAVID T. MCCOY  
STATE CONTROLLER

May 4, 2012

### MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Chief Fiscal Officers  
Vice Chancellors  
Business Managers

**FROM:** David McCoy *David McCoy*

**SUBJECT:** Fraudulent Activity Alert

The Office of the State Controller recently learned of an attempt made by UST, a California-based telecommunications company, to defraud a state agency by submitting an invoice for goods/services that had not been ordered or performed. Based upon our research, UST appears to have a history of sending fraudulent invoices to unsuspecting businesses.

As in the attempt made to defraud a North Carolina state agency, our research indicates that UST's practice is to send an invoice in the amount of \$425 with a description of "TELECOM MAINTENANCE AGREEMENT". The "remit to" address on the invoice is: UST, P.O. Box 970, La Verne, CA 91750-0970. Also noted on the invoice is: "Thank you for your business, this warranty covers preventative maintenance on all telecom system equipment, including, telephone instruments, switches, routers, & cabling".

Presently, UST is neither a NCAS "trade" or "non-trade" vendor". OSC's Support Services staff has been alerted to not add this vendor to the NCAS "trade" vendor files. NCAS agencies are also cautioned not to add UST to their "non-trade" vendor files. All other non-NCAS governmental entities should take similar action regarding their vendor files.

If you receive an invoice from UST, please notify Ben McLawhorn, OSC's Risk Mitigation Services Manager, at 919-707-0757 or [ben.mclawhorn@osc.nc.gov](mailto:ben.mclawhorn@osc.nc.gov) as soon as possible. Thank you for your assistance.