Below is an excerpt of the consumer complaint filed with the Federal Trade Commission by a person in Maryland who reported losing nearly \$1.4 million to a pig-butchering scam.

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**Complaint Source** FTC Online Complaints

Data Source Consumer

**Complaint Date** 10/14/2021

## **Consumer Address, City** Berlin

**Consumer Address, State Name** Maryland

Consumer Address, Country Code USA

**Consumer Age range** 30 - 39

## **Complaint Info Law Violation Description**

Other (Note the Violation in the Comment Field)|Deception/Misrepresentation

## **Complaint Info Comments**

I was contacted by Mr. Wang back in June 7th of 2021 through Instagram. I responded to him on June 20th of 2021. We proceed to chat about work, hobbies and life. It was all pretty casual for the first week. Until the second or third week when he became possessive of me and who I was talking to. He expressed feelings of love and etc. Not soon after he mentioned about stocks and investments. He proceed to show me his profits from trading gold and was willing to teach if I am interested. I showed great interest and set up an account through this website : Zhinter.com. Its website no longer exist. Also was asked to download an APP MT4 which connected to Zhinter, Zhinter was the broker. Once account was set up he asked me to give it a try and deposit a small amount into the account. The first initial wire was in the amount of 200,000 usd on 7162021 into a Bank account in Hong Kong. Second wire was in the amount of 210,000 usd on 7232021 also into a Bank account in Hong Kong. During this time he offered me \$700,000 usd that we deposited directly into my Account through USDT transfer. He proceeded to ask me to make my account bigger and reap the profit from this one in a life time opportunity. I proceed to get funding from friends and family. The subsequent wiring dates and amount are: wire amount was 200,000 on 8052021, 200,000 on 8112021, a subsequent domestic wire of 300,000 usd through Bank of America into domestic business account USA fortune capital inc, street address is 20 E 94th ST, New York, NY 11012. Once the trading has ended, I applied to withdrawal my money and profit from the website. The broker asked me to pay a tax on the profit of 88,587.90 usd on 8162021, this amount was wired again through Bank of America into a foreign account in Hong Kong.

Another request for me to pay security deposit on my profits which was 83,950.00 usd wired out to a different foreign account in Hong Kong once again. The broker asked for a bank and withdrawal processing fee of 27,983.34 usd again was wired out to a different foreign account in Hong Kong. The very last wire was for expediting the withdrawal and the platform asked for 55,966.60 usd wired out to Hong Kong. At this point I already had to much money in the platform so I kept giving in. The last notice from the platform was that Hong Kong government was verifying the deposits and it would take another 15 days before I can receive my withdrawal. Mr. Wang at this point was also saying he had put more money into the broker platform and he made me feel so guilty. The last time we spoke was mid September when he asked me to send him 10,000 usdt to cover his daily expenses. However, I have hollowed out all my funds that I did not have anything to give. He ended our relationship but proceeded to stay active on Instagram for another month before he ended his account on Instagram as well. Other-Other Update