

# FREIGHT CRIME IS ON THE RISE

The transportation industry is facing severe repercussions as freight fraud and freight heists reach record-high levels. While double brokering has been around for years, fraudsters have evolved, making identity theft their new scheme. <sup>(1)</sup>

#### FRAUD & IDENTITY THEFT

- Entities use another motor carrier's assigned USDOT number, when not authorized to do so, or when someone acts as a broker and is not registered with FMCSA
- Includes fraud schemes, such as entire truckloads picked up and never delivered or delivered with digitally altered paperwork to hide the theft from the customer



### **DOUBLE BROKERING**

- Double brokerage occurs when a carrier accepts a load from a broker and re-brokers it to another carrier without the original broker's consent
- Allows fraudulent carriers/brokers to steal entire truckloads at a time

IN Q1 OF 2024.

\$154.6M

ESTIMATED TOTAL VALUE OF GOODS STOLEN (2)

MOST SIGNIFICANT SPIKES IN TX, CA, IL

+22% +72% +126% **YEAR-OVER-YEAR INCREASE** (2)

THESE THREE STATES MADE UP 57% OF ALL Q1 CARGO THEFT

THEFT ACTIVITY IN Q1

+46%

**DECREASE IN 02** 

-10%

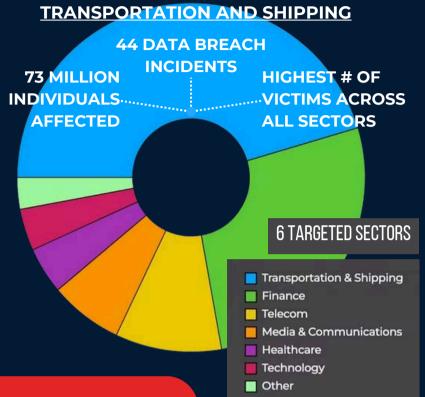
### **COMMONLY TARGETED ITEMS** (2)

- ENERGY DRINKS
- LIQUOR
- SMALL APPLIANCES
- COPPER



# WHAT TO EXPECT IN UPCOMING QUARTERS

- Experts predict that high levels of non-delivery thefts and strategic shortages will continue in the foreseeable future. (2)
- The frequency and intensity of data breaches may discourage the transition to electric vehicles.
- Thieves' propensity to steal a wide array of goods poses an ongoing threat to industries nationwide.
- Data breaches in the transportation industry have doubled, making transportation and shipping the most vulnerable sector. (4)



## WAYS TO AVOID FREIGHT CRIME

#### THOROUGHLY VET EVERY CARRIER

- At time of booking, verify:
  - Authority
  - DOT/MC number
  - Physical location or asset activity
  - Insurance coverage
  - Contact information
- Is the above information consistent across multiple sites?
- At pickup, verify the carrier by matching the driver's documents with the provided information

#### **DOES YOUR CARRIER**

- Plan routes to avoid high-risk areas
- Leverage advanced track and trace technologies with real-time analytics
- Collaborate and communicate with you and/or its carriers to strengthen partnerships

(1) Sharkey, Grace. "How freight fraud became the perfect crime." FreightWaves, 25 July 2024; https://www.freightwaves.com/news/how-freight-fraud-became-the-perfect-crime

(2) "2024 First Quarter Supply Chain Risk Trends Analysis" by CargoNet: https://www.cargonet.com/news-and-events/cargonet-in-the-media/2024-q1-theft-trends/

(3) Wolf, Connor. "Trucking Weathers Another Increase in Cargo Theft for Q2." Transport Topics, 18 July 2024: https://www.ttnews.com/articles/trucking-cargo-theft-q2-2024

(4) Washington, Jerome. "Cyber Attacks Surge in Transportation Industry" Freight Caviar, 22 July 2024: https://www.freightcaviar.com/cyber-attacks-surge-in-transportation-industry/



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