

Rescuing locked or staked crypto from a compromised wallet

10/25/2024 12:31 am EDT

If your cryptocurrency wallet has been compromised (e.g. via a seed phrase compromise), whether it be a Metamask wallet, Trustwallet, Exodus wallet, or even if it's on a hardware wallet like a Ledger or Trezor, the hacker likely stole what they could steal. But in some cases there are also locked or staked cryptocurrency tokens that have an unlocking period, unstaking period, or unbonding period, prior to which they cannot be stolen.

If you have locked or staked cryptocurrency in your wallet that the attacker has starting the unstaking or unbonding process for, you can bet the attacker is going to try and steal the remaining funds in the wallet as soon as the period expires. This means it's a race to get those funds out of the compromised wallet to a secure location the very second that it's possible to do so. Expect the hacker to try and do the same, so understand when exactly the period will expire and be quick!

Additionally, you should also keep in mind that hackers sometimes employ sweeping bots that operate 24/7 that are designed to sweep any funds that become available in a compromised wallet as soon as possible -- and even faster than what a human would be able to perform. In these situations the best solution is to have a better & faster bot that can beat the hacker's bot.

If the hacker hasn't started unstaking or unlocking the tokens, it's possible they may not yet know about those funds. Be careful if you elect to try any unstake or unlock yourself, because if the hacker is still watching the wallet, they will then know.

If you have a sizable amount of cryptocurrency in a compromised wallet, regardless of whether or not the hacker has starting unstaking or unlocking those tokens yet, feel free to contact us ASAP as we may be able to implement our own bot to rescue the tokens. Time is of the essence however, so be sure to prepare and take action quickly, and if you are seeking professional help do so as quickly as possible.
