

## **SHERLOCK SECURITY REVIEW FOR**



**Prepared for:** Telcoin

**Prepared by:** Sherlock

**Lead Security Expert:** <u>hyh</u>

**Dates Audited:** March 14 - March 17, 2023

Prepared on: May 1, 2023

## Introduction

Telcoin leverages blockchain technology to provide access to low-cost, high-quality decentralized financial products for every mobile phone user in the world.

## **Scope**

Repository: telcoin/telcoin-audit

Branch: main

Commit: 4197d2547699d910238f1782572f4a95a1c40a2a

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For the detailed scope, see the contest details.

## **Findings**

Each issue has an assigned severity:

- Medium issues are security vulnerabilities that may not be directly exploitable or may require certain conditions in order to be exploited. All major issues should be addressed.
- High issues are directly exploitable security vulnerabilities that need to be fixed.

#### **Issues found**

Medium	High
6	1

## Issues not fixed or acknowledged

Medium	High
0	0

## Security experts who found valid issues

hyhJ4deOxGoodessspyrosonic10gmxddimitrov22banditx0xInspexjasonxialeTrickoOxAgrodippjonatascm



# Issue H-1: Rogue plugin can become unremovable and halt all staking and claiming

Source: https://github.com/sherlock-audit/2023-02-telcoin-judging/issues/67

## Found by

hyh

## **Summary**

StakingModule's plugin that turned rogue can deny any attempts of its removal and can effectively stop the contract, disturbing the whole range of StakingModule operations.

I.e. if any plugin turns malicious due to bug or upgrade altering its functionality vs one that was in place as of the time of its addition to StakingModule, such malicious plugin can halt StakingModule and freeze all the funds staked.

## **Vulnerability Detail**

The reason is removePlugins() having require(IPlugin(plugin).deactivated()) condition, which success is required.

Suppose that a plugin turned malicious (as a result of a bug or by owner's intent via upgrade), begin to permanently return false for the deactivated() call.

And, for instance, it can simultaneously return 2\*\*256-1 in claim() to overflow the sum and revert the IPlugin(plugin).requiresNotification() calls.

## **Impact**

As all StakingModule operations will be frozen and funds withdrawal be unavailable in this scenario it will be permanent freeze of funds for all the stakers.

## **Code Snippet**

If a plugin turns rogue:

It can return 2\*\*256-1 in claim() to overflow the sum:

https://github.com/sherlock-audit/2023-02-telcoin/blob/main/telcoin-audit/contracts/staking/StakingModule.sol#L353-L366

```
function _claim(address account, address to, bytes calldata auxData) private

→ returns (uint256) {

// balance of `to` before claiming
```



```
uint256 balBefore = IERC20Upgradeable(tel).balanceOf(to);

// call claim on all plugins and count the total amount claimed
uint256 total;
bytes[] memory parsedAuxData = parseAuxData(auxData);
for (uint256 i = 0; i < nPlugins; i++) {
    try IPlugin(plugins[i]).claim(account, to, parsedAuxData[i]) returns
    (uint256 xClaimed) {
        total += xClaimed;
    } catch {
        emit PluginClaimFailed(plugins[i]);
    }
}</pre>
```

This will block slash(), claim(), fullClaimAndExit(), partialClaimAndExit() functions.

Also, it can revert the IPlugin(plugin).requiresNotification() call:

https://github.com/sherlock-audit/2023-02-telcoin/blob/main/telcoin-audit/contracts/staking/StakingModule.sol#L485-L498

It will also block stake(), partialExit(), exit(), and migration claimAndExitFor(), stakeFor() functions.

As all involve \_notifyStakeChangeAllPlugins(), for example:

https://github.com/sherlock-audit/2023-02-telcoin/blob/main/telcoin-audit/contracts/staking/StakingModule.sol#L573-L575



https://github.com/sherlock-audit/2023-02-telcoin/blob/main/telcoin-audit/contracts/staking/StakingModule.sol#L388-L406

```
function _exit(address account, address to) private returns (uint256) {
    uint256 stakedAmt = _stakes[account].latest();

>>> _partialExit(account, to, stakedAmt);

    return stakedAmt;
}

function _partialExit(address account, address to, uint256 exitAmount)
private checkpointProtection(account) {
    if (exitAmount == 0) {
        return;
    }

    uint256 stakedAmt = _stakes[account].latest();

    require(stakedAmt >= exitAmount, "StakingMoudle: Cannot exit more than
    is staked");

    // notify plugins
    _notifyStakeChangeAllPlugins(account, stakedAmt, stakedAmt - exitAmount);
```

#### **Tool used**

Manual Review

#### Recommendation

Consider adding force option to removePlugin(), for example:

https://github.com/sherlock-audit/2023-02-telcoin/blob/main/telcoin-audit/contracts/staking/StakingModule.sol#L542-L555



```
address plugin = plugins[index];

- require(IPlugin(plugin).deactivated(), "StakingModule::removePlugin:

→ Plugin is not deactivated");

+ require(force || IPlugin(plugin).deactivated(),

→ "StakingModule::removePlugin: Plugin is not deactivated");

pluginsMapping[plugin] = false;
plugins[index] = plugins[nPlugins - 1];
pluginIndicies[plugins[index]] = index;
plugins.pop();
nPlugins--;

emit PluginRemoved(plugin, nPlugins);
}
```

### **Discussion**

#### dmitriia

Looks ok

## jacksanford1

Admin note: This is the PR that was created and signed off on: https://github.com/telcoin/telcoin-audit/pull/10



## Issue M-1: Account that is affiliated with a plugin can sometimes evade slashing

Source: https://github.com/sherlock-audit/2023-02-telcoin-judging/issues/62

## Found by

hyh

## **Summary**

Rogue plugin can be a big staker itself or can collide with one and allow such staker to evade slashing in a number of scenarios, i.e. reduce the probability of slashing execution.

## **Vulnerability Detail**

In order to achieve that the plugin can behave otherwise normally in all regards, but on observing staked amount reduction for a specific account it can revert IPlugin(plugin).requiresNotification().

If a given account also partially mitigate the existence of withdrawalDelay > 0 with the periodic renewal of withdrawal requests (without using any, just to have some window available), the overall probability of it to be able to withdraw while plugin is still in the system is noticeable.

This way the overall scenario is:

- 1. plugin and account collide and set up the monitoring
- 2. SLASHER's slash() for account is front-run with plugin tx switching its state so it is now reverting on IPlugin(plugin).requiresNotification()
- 3. slash() is reverted this way, plugin switches to a normal state (it basically sandwiches slashing with two txs, own state change forth and back)
- 4. SLASHER investigate with PLUGIN\_EDITOR who the reverting plugin is
- 5. Meanwhile withdraw window account has requested beforehand is approaching and if it occurs before PLUGIN\_EDITOR removes a plugin (the ability to do so is an another issue, here we suppose it's fixed and plugin is removable) the account will be able to withdraw fully
- 6. account exit() executes as plugin is in normal state and doesn't block anything



### **Impact**

account have some chance to evade the slashing, withdrawing the whole stake before slashing can occur.

With the growth of the protocol and increasing of the number of plugins this probability will gradually raise as volatile behavior of a particular plugin can be more tricky to identify which can provide enough time for an account.

The cost of being removed can be bearable for plugin provided that the account stake saved is big enough.

## **Code Snippet**

Plugin can revert the IPlugin(plugin).requiresNotification() call:

https://github.com/sherlock-audit/2023-02-telcoin/blob/main/telcoin-audit/contracts/staking/StakingModule.sol#L485-L498

```
/// @dev Calls `notifyStakeChange` on all plugins that require it. This is
done in case any given plugin needs to do some stuff when a user exits.
/// @param account Account that is exiting
function _notifyStakeChangeAllPlugins(address account, uint256 amountBefore,
uint256 amountAfter) private {
    // loop over all plugins
    for (uint256 i = 0; i < nPlugins; i++) {
        // only notify if the plugin requires

>> if (IPlugin(plugins[i]).requiresNotification()) {
        try IPlugin(plugins[i]).notifyStakeChange(account, amountBefore,
        amountAfter) {}
        catch {
        emit StakeChangeNotificationFailed(plugins[i]);
        }
    }
}
```

It will prohibit slashing as slash() calls \_claimAndExit() that invokes \_notifyStakeChangeAllPlugins():

https://github.com/sherlock-audit/2023-02-telcoin/blob/main/telcoin-audit/contracts/staking/StakingModule.sol#L510-L513



https://github.com/sherlock-audit/2023-02-telcoin/blob/main/telcoin-audit/contracts/staking/StakingModule.sol#L460-L471

```
function _claimAndExit(address account, uint256 amount, address to, bytes
calldata auxData) private checkpointProtection(account) {
    require(amount <= balanceOf(account, auxData), "Account has insufficient
    balance");

    // keep track of initial stake
    uint256 oldStake = _stakes[account].latest();
    // xClaimed = total amount claimed
    uint256 xClaimed = _claim(account, address(this), auxData);

    uint256 newStake = oldStake + xClaimed - amount;

    // notify all plugins that account's stake has changed (if the plugin
    requires)

>> _notifyStakeChangeAllPlugins(account, oldStake, newStake);
```

If there is a withdrawalDelay the account can routinely renew withdrawal requests:

https://github.com/sherlock-audit/2023-02-telcoin/blob/main/telcoin-audit/contracts/staking/StakingModule.sol#L231-L236

```
function requestWithdrawal() external {
    require(withdrawalDelay > 0, "StakingModule: Withdrawal delay is 0");
    require(block.timestamp > withdrawalRequestTimestamps[msg.sender] +
    withdrawalDelay + withdrawalWindow, "StakingModule: Withdrawal already
    pending");

withdrawalRequestTimestamps[msg.sender] = block.timestamp;
}
```

This way there is a chance that account will be able to withdraw while SLASHER locates the reason of blocking and communicate with PLUGIN\_EDITOR in order to remove the plugin.

#### Tool used

Manual Review

#### Recommendation

Consider adding try-catch to the requiresNotification() call, for example:

https://github.com/sherlock-audit/2023-02-telcoin/blob/main/telcoin-audit/contracts/staking/StakingModule.sol#L485-L498



```
/// @dev Calls `notifyStakeChange` on all plugins that require it. This is
→ done in case any given plugin needs to do some stuff when a user exits.
   /// @param account Account that is exiting
   function _notifyStakeChangeAllPlugins(address account, uint256 amountBefore,
→ uint256 amountAfter) private {
       // loop over all plugins
       for (uint256 i = 0; i < nPlugins; i++) {</pre>
           // only notify if the plugin requires
           if (IPlugin(plugins[i]).requiresNotification()) {
           bool notificationRequired;
           try IPlugin(plugins[i]).requiresNotification() returns (bool req) {
   notificationRequired = req; }
           catch { emit StakeChangeNotificationFailed(plugins[i]); }
           if (notificationRequired) {
               try IPlugin(plugins[i]).notifyStakeChange(account, amountBefore,
   amountAfter) {}
               catch {
                   emit StakeChangeNotificationFailed(plugins[i]);
               }
           }
       }
   }
```

#### **Discussion**

#### amshirif

https://github.com/telcoin/telcoin-audit/pull/5

#### dmitriia

Looks ok



# Issue M-2: slash calls can be blocked, allowing malicious users to bypass the slashing mechanism.

Source: https://github.com/sherlock-audit/2023-02-telcoin-judging/issues/54

## Found by

Tricko, dipp

## **Summary**

A malicious user can block slashing by frontrunning slash with a call to stake(1) at the same block, allowing him to keep blocking calls to slash while waiting for his withdraw delay, effectively bypassing the slashing mechanism.

## **Vulnerability Detail**

StakingModule's checkpointProtection modifier reverts certain actions, like claims, if the accounts' stake was previously modified in the same block. A malicious user can exploit this to intentionally block calls to slash.

Consider the following scenario, where Alice has SLASHER\_ROLE and Bob is the malicious user.

- 1. Alice calls slash on Bob's account.
- 2. Bob sees the transaction on the mempool and tries to frontrun it by staking 1 TEL. (See Proof of Concept section below for a simplified example of this scenario)

If Bob stake call is processed first (he can pay more gas to increase his odds of being placed before than Alice), his new stake is pushed to \_stakes[address(Bob)], and his latest checkpoint (\_stakes[address(Bob)].\_checkpoints[numCheckpoints - 1]) blockNumber field is updated to the current block.number. So when slash is being processed in the same block and calls internally \_claimAndExit it will revert due to the checkpointProtection modifier check (See code snippet below).

```
modifier checkpointProtection(address account) {
    uint256 numCheckpoints = _stakes[account]._checkpoints.length;
    require(numCheckpoints == 0 || _stakes[account]._checkpoints[numCheckpoints
    - 1]._blockNumber != block.number, "StakingModule: Cannot exit in the same
    block as another stake or exit");
    _;
}
```

Bob can do this indefinitely, eventually becoming a gas war between Alice and Bob or until Alice tries to use Flashbots Protect or similar services to avoid the public



mempool. More importantly, this can be leverage to block all slash attempts while waiting the time required to withdraw, so the malicious user could call requestWithdrawal(), then keep blocking all future slash calls while waiting for his withdrawalDelay, then proceed to withdraws his stake when block.timestamp > withdrawalRequestTimestamps[msg.sender] + withdrawalDelay. Therefore bypassing the slashing mechanism.

In this modified scenario

- 1. Alice calls slash on Bob's account.
- 2. Bob sees the transaction on the mempool and tries to frontrun it by staking 1 TEL.
- 3. Bob requests his withdraw (requestWithdrawal())
- 4. Bob keeps monitoring the mempool for future calls to slash against his account, trying to frontrun each one of them.
- 5. When enough time has passed so that his withdraw is available, Bob calls exit or fullClaimAndExit

## **Impact**

Slashing calls can be blocked by malicious user, allowing him to request his withdraw, wait until withdraw delay has passed (while blocking further calls to slash) and then withdraw his funds.

Classify this one as medium severity, because even though there are ways to avoid being frontrunned, like paying much more gas or using services like Flashbots Protect, none is certain to work because the malicious user can use the same methods to their advantage. And if the malicious user is successful, this would result in loss of funds to the protocol (i.e funds that should have been slashed, but user managed to withdraw them)

## **Proof of Concept**

The POC below shows that staking prevents any future call to slash on the same block. To reproduce this POC just copy the code to a file on the test/ folder and run it.

```
const { expect } = require("chai")
const { ethers, upgrades } = require("hardhat")

const emptyBytes = []

describe("POC", () => {
  let deployer
  let alice
```



```
let bob
 let telContract
 let stakingContract
 let SLASHER_ROLE
 beforeEach("setup", async () => {
   [deployer, alice, bob] = await ethers.getSigners()
   //Deployments
   const TELFactory = await ethers.getContractFactory("TestTelcoin", deployer)
   const StakingModuleFactory = await ethers.getContractFactory(
     "StakingModule",
     deployer
   telContract = await TELFactory.deploy(deployer.address)
   await telContract.deployed()
   stakingContract = await upgrades.deployProxy(StakingModuleFactory, [
     telContract.address,
     3600,
   ])
   //Grant SLASHER_ROLE to Alice
   SLASHER_ROLE = await stakingContract.SLASHER_ROLE()
   await stakingContract
     .connect(deployer)
     .grantRole(SLASHER_ROLE, alice.address)
   //Send some TEL tokens to Bob
   await telContract.connect(deployer).transfer(bob.address, 1)
   //Setup approvals
   await telContract
     .connect(bob)
     .approve(stakingContract.address, 1)
 })
 describe("POC", () => {
   it("should revert during slash", async () => {
     //Disable auto-mining and set interval to 0 necessary to guarantee both
\hookrightarrow transactions
     //below are mined in the same block, reproducing the frontrunning scenario.
     await network.provider.send("evm_setAutomine", [false]);
     await network.provider.send("evm_setIntervalMining", [0]);
     //Bob stakes 1 TEL
     await stakingContract
       .connect(bob)
```

## **Code Snippet**

https://github.com/sherlock-audit/2023-02-telcoin/blob/main/telcoin-audit/contracts/staking/StakingModule.sol#L109-L113

https://github.com/sherlock-audit/2023-02-telcoin/blob/main/telcoin-audit/contracts/staking/StakingModule.sol#L510-L513

https://github.com/sherlock-audit/2023-02-telcoin/blob/main/telcoin-audit/contracts/staking/StakingModule.sol#L460-L483

#### Tool used

Manual Review

#### Recommendation

Consider implementing a specific version of \_claimAndExit without the checkpointProtection modifier, to be used inside the slash function.

#### **Discussion**

#### amshirif

Two different issues are in the same PR because they both stem from the same modifier.

#### amshirif

https://github.com/telcoin/telcoin-audit/pull/6



## dmitriia

Looks ok



## Issue M-3: Front Run of addBlackList() function

Source: https://github.com/sherlock-audit/2023-02-telcoin-judging/issues/43

## Found by

0xAgro, Inspex, J4de, gmx

## **Summary**

### Front Run of addBlackList() function

## **Vulnerability Detail**

Front running can be done either by sending a tx with a higher gas price (usually tx are ordered in a block by the gas price / total fee), or by paying an additional fee to the validator if they manage to run their tx without reverting (i.e. by sending additional ETH to block.coinbase, hoping validator will notice it).

## **Impact**

Malicious user could listen the mempool in order to check if he sees a tx of blacklisting for his address, if it happens he could front run this tx by sending a tx with higher gas fee to transfer his funds to prevent them to be removed by removeBlackFunds() function

## **Code Snippet**

https://github.com/sherlock-audit/2023-02-telcoin/blob/main/telcoin-audit/contracts/stablecoin/Stablecoin.sol#L159

#### Tool used

Manual Review

#### Recommendation

Use the same mechanism as in StakingModule.sol to prevent user from withdrawing their funds if blacklisted so that front running won't be useful

#### **Discussion**

#### jacksanford1

Admin note: Protocol team confirmed the issue and labeled "Won't Fix."



## Issue M-4: StakingModule's stakedByAt() can report erroneous values

Source: https://github.com/sherlock-audit/2023-02-telcoin-judging/issues/36

## Found by

hyh

## **Summary**

stakedByAt() is vulnerable to producing manipulated readings when staking was performed more than once in the same block.

For example, if there were two stake() calls in one block, then stakedByAt() will report the state resulting from only the first one due to Checkpoints returning the value of the first checkpoint of the block.

## **Vulnerability Detail**

Currently only exiting can't be carried out more than once in the same block, staking can happen more than once.

This will yield lower than actual stakedByAt() and balanceOfAt() readings whenever several staking calls happened in one block.

## **Impact**

Erroneous readings can and most probably will impact downstream systems and can lead to their user's losses.

Reading other system's balance is a common component of decision making in a typical Vault contract. StakingModule can be a strategy therein and readings of the current holdings of the Vault will impact the course of its actions. Vault can have been depositing more than once in a block say as a result of actions of their users, for example it could been two deposits from different users in the same block, and parts of each of them was staked with StakingModule.

By having stakedByAt() reported value associated with the first deposit only, StakingModule biases the actions of the Vault, which can lead to losses for its users and then to removal of Telcoin integration, which is loss of market share that can later translates to Telcoin value.



## **Code Snippet**

Historical requests used in stakedByAt() are vulnerable to stale Checkpoints readings:

https://github.com/sherlock-audit/2023-02-telcoin/blob/main/telcoin-audit/contracts/staking/StakingModule.sol#L218-L223

stakedByAt() is used for historical balance readings:

https://github.com/sherlock-audit/2023-02-telcoin/blob/main/telcoin-audit/contracts/staking/StakingModule.sol#L174-L176

checkpointProtection() is added to some functions (\_partialExit() and \_claimAndExit()), but \_stake() is left unprotected:

https://github.com/sherlock-audit/2022-11-telcoin-judging/issues/83

https://github.com/sherlock-audit/2023-02-telcoin/blob/main/telcoin-audit/contracts/staking/StakingModule.sol#L109-L113

```
modifier checkpointProtection(address account) {
    uint256 numCheckpoints = _stakes[account]._checkpoints.length;
    require(numCheckpoints == 0 || _stakes[account]._checkpoints[numCheckpoints
    - 1]._blockNumber != block.number, "StakingModule: Cannot exit in the same
    block as another stake or exit");
    _;
}
```

https://github.com/sherlock-audit/2023-02-telcoin/blob/main/telcoin-audit/contracts/staking/StakingModule.sol#L429-L439

```
function _stake(address account, address from, uint256 amount) private {
```



```
require(amount > 0, "Cannot stake 0");
uint256 stakedBefore = _stakes[account].latest();
uint256 stakedAfter = stakedBefore + amount;

// notify plugins
_notifyStakeChangeAllPlugins(account, stakedBefore, stakedAfter);

// update _stakes
_stakes[account].push(stakedAfter);
```

I.e. what currently implemented is a fix for the flash loan vector, but stakedByAt() readings can still be wrong.

#### **Tool used**

Manual Review

#### Recommendation

Consider adding the checkpointProtection() check to \_stake():

https://github.com/sherlock-audit/2023-02-telcoin/blob/main/telcoin-audit/contracts/staking/StakingModule.sol#L429-L439

This way both staking and unstaking will be restricted to once per block due to the usage of Checkpoints, which needs to be documented as a known limitation.

#### **Discussion**

amshirif



Two different issues are in the same PR because they both stem from the same modifier.

#### amshirif

https://github.com/telcoin/telcoin-audit/pull/6

#### dmitriia

Looks ok, but since <code>checkpointProtection</code> is removed it needs to be documented that stakedByAt() and balanceOfAt() return first known state instead of the final state of any block due to Checkpoints logic.



## Issue M-5: Withdraw delay can be bypassed

Source: https://github.com/sherlock-audit/2023-02-telcoin-judging/issues/23

## Found by

banditx0x, spyrosonic10

## **Summary**

StakingModule has core feature around staking, claim and withdraw. All these features has core and essential mechanism which is delayed withdrawal. In ideal scenario, user will stake X amount of token and will call requestWithdrawal when user want to withdraw his/her stake. requestWithdrawal will record user's request to withdraw and allow this user to withdraw only after withdrawalDelay is passed and during withdrawalWindow only. User can call requestWithdrawal in well advance before staking and this will allow user to bypass withdrawalDelay.

## **Vulnerability Detail**

Withdraw locking/delaying is core feature of this contract and it can be exploited very easily.

User can call requestWithdrawal before staking tokens and this will set user's withdrawalRequestTimestamps. Once withdrawalDelay is passed user can easily stake and unstake without locking time.

One would suggest that easy fix is to check staked > 0 during call to requestWithdrawal and that should solve this issue. No, it will not. Assume staked>0 check is added in requestWithdrawal then user will stake 1 wei and call requestWithdrawal and this will result in almost same scenario.

Why would this happen? Because there is no relationship between stake and withdrawalRequestTimestamps.

## **Impact**

withdrawalDelay can be bypassed

## **Code Snippet**

https://github.com/sherlock-audit/2023-02-telcoin/blob/main/telcoin-audit/contracts/staking/StakingModule.sol#L231-L236

https://github.com/sherlock-audit/2023-02-telcoin/blob/main/telcoin-audit/contracts/staking/StakingModule.sol#L240-L246



#### **POC**

```
it.only("should bypass withdrawal delay", async () => {
 const delay = 60
 const window = 30
 // Set time delay
 await stakingContract.connect(deployer).grantRole(SLASHER_ROLE,
await stakingContract.connect(slasher).setWithdrawDelayAndWindow(delay, window)
 await helpers.mine(1)
 // Request withdrawal
 await stakingContract.requestWithdrawal()
 // Increase time to pass timed delay
 await helpers.time.increase(delay)
 // Stake some tokens
 bobStakeTx3 = await stakingContract.connect(bob).stake(bobAmtStake)
 // Check there is non-zero staked balance
 expect(await stakingContract.balanceOf(bob.address, emptyBytes)).gt(0)
 // Claim and exit without wait.
 await stakingContract.fullClaimAndExit(emptyBytes)
})
```

#### Tool used

Manual Review

#### Recommendation

Consider resetting withdrawalRequestTimestamps when user stake any amount of token.

```
function stake(uint256 amount) external nonReentrant {
   _stake({
       account: msg.sender,
       from: msg.sender,
       amount: amount
   });
   withdrawalRequestTimestamps = 0;
}
```

#### **Discussion**

#### dmitriia

Looks ok

#### hrishibhat



Considering this issue as a valid medium. As it just bypasses the delay mechanism. No direct funds are lost or any other significant impact for the issue to classify as high.

#### spyrosonic10

Escalate for 10 USDC.

While I agree that no direct funds are lost but delayed withdrawal is essential mechanism of StakingModule. So in my opinion bypassing an essential mechanism by user should be considered as High issue.

#### sherlock-admin

Escalate for 10 USDC.

While I agree that no direct funds are lost but delayed withdrawal is essential mechanism of StakingModule. So in my opinion bypassing an essential mechanism by user should be considered as High issue.

You've created a valid escalation for 10 USDC!

To remove the escalation from consideration: Delete your comment.

You may delete or edit your escalation comment anytime before the 48-hour escalation window closes. After that, the escalation becomes final.

#### hrishibhat

**Escalation rejected** 

Not a valid high Bypassing delay mechanism in this case is not a valid high issue

#### sherlock-admin

Escalation rejected

Not a valid high Bypassing delay mechanism in this case is not a valid high issue

This issue's escalations have been rejected!

Watsons who escalated this issue will have their escalation amount deducted from their next payout.

#### jacksanford1

Admin note: This is the PR that was created and signed off on: https://github.com/telcoin/telcoin-audit/pull/7



# Issue M-6: FeeBuyback.submit() method may fail if all allowance is not used by referral contract

Source: https://github.com/sherlock-audit/2023-02-telcoin-judging/issues/22

## Found by

0xGoodess, ddimitrov22, jasonxiale, jonatascm, spyrosonic10

## **Summary**

Inside submit() method of FeeBuyback.sol, if token is \_telcoin then it safeApprove to \_referral contract. If \_referral contract do not use all allowance then submit() method will fail in next call.

## **Vulnerability Detail**

SafeApprove() method of library SafeERC20Upgradeable revert in following scenario.

```
require((value == 0) || (token.allowance(address(this), spender) == 0),
"SafeERC20: approve from non-zero to non-zero allowance");
```

Submit method is doing safeApproval of Telcoin to referral contract. If referral contract do not use full allowance then subsequent call to submit() method will fails because of SafeERC20: approve from non-zero to non-zero allowance. FeeBuyback contract should not trust or assume that referral contract will use all allowance. If it does not use all allowance in increaseClaimableBy() method then submit() method will revert in next call. This vulnerability exists at two places in submit() method. Link given in code snippet section.

## **Impact**

Submit() call will fail until referral contract do not use all allowance.

## **Code Snippet**

https://github.com/sherlock-audit/2023-02-telcoin/blob/main/telcoin-audit/contracts/staking/FeeBuyback.sol#L63-L64

https://github.com/sherlock-audit/2023-02-telcoin/blob/main/telcoin-audit/contracts/staking/FeeBuyback.sol#L63-L64

#### Tool used

Manual Review



### Recommendation

Reset allowance to 0 before non-zero approval.

```
_telcoin.safeApprove(address(_referral), 0);
_telcoin.safeApprove(address(_referral), _telcoin.balanceOf(address(this)));
```

## **Discussion**

#### amshirif

https://github.com/telcoin/telcoin-audit/pull/3

#### dmitriia

Looks ok

