



Unexpected Delivery Scam

Scam Overview

Delivery scams are nothing new, but this twist certainly is...credit card theft via delivery.

Details of the Unexpected Delivery Scam

This scam is highly involved and comes across as very trustworthy. After a message or call that a delivery person is on their way over with your package, your doorbell rings. A courier is standing there holding something like a floral arrangement, a gift bag, or some other item, along with a bottle of wine. The courier explains there's a tiny charge for the delivery to serve as proof that it was signed for by someone over the age of 21, as it contains alcohol.

That sounds plausible, even if it's out of the ordinary. Next, the delivery person claims they're not allowed to accept cash due to company policy about couriers carrying money, and instead asks for a credit card or debit card. S/he presents a mobile card reader device, you swipe your card, and you even get a receipt for the small charge.

Unfortunately, the delivery person wasn't charging your card with that device...s/he was copying your card. *Getting the credit/debit card information is the whole point of this scam.* One victim had their bank account drained of more than \$4,000 after falling for this scam.

Red Flag Assessment

- Never make payment for a delivery you weren't expecting.
- If you must pay a surcharge, get the information, and contact the company before paying.
- If anyone ever requires a specific form of payment, it could be genuine, but it certainly deserves your attention. Proceed with caution.

What To Do If You Are Affected

Note: We delayed posting this scam until we were able to secure additional verification of this being a real scam.

We worked with a couple of our partners, Brian Blausler, Supervisory Special Agent (SSA) of the FBI White Collar Crime Squad in Denver, CO as well as Scott Sickafoose Deputy Sheriff, Arapahoe County.

If you suspect you may have encountered this crime, it is recommended you reach out to your local police department. Per Deputy Sheriff Sickafoose, many frauds are sourced to out-of-state or out-of-country locations. However, the nature of this particular crime indicates it may be within the local jurisdiction, which should provide a greater opportunity for investigation by local law enforcement.

Additional Resources For You

Here are some links related to this scam:

- https://da.lacounty.gov/sites/default/files/pdf/201802_BogusDelivery_eng.pdf
- <https://www.snopes.com/fact-check/delivery-courier-scam/>

End Elder Fraud: www.endelderfraud.org
Email: support@endelderfraud.org