

CYBER & WIRE FRAUD AWARENESS

Online fraud and identity theft is an epidemic. Vigilance and education are the first steps in prevention and protection from cyber fraud.

Spam, Scams, Spoofing & Phishing

Email is a convenient and powerful communications tool used by scammers as an easy means for luring potential victims. Personal Information Scams or "Phishing" scams, are currently the most popular and most dangerous type of email fraud. Email messages appear to come from a legitimate company or institution, and ask you to "update" or "verify" your personal information; the scammers then use this information to commit identity theft.

Identification and Prevention

- Look for incorrect grammar and spelling in the text of the email.
- The e-mail formatting appears off or company logos are missing.
- Beware of urgent or threatening language in the subject line.
- The email includes suspicious or unsolicited attachments.
- Always check link before clicking by hovering over it.
- Never use work e-mail for personal signups.

Wire Fraud

Wire fraud is committed using phone lines or other wires, using electronic communications. Wire fraud is perpetrated with the intent of defrauding someone out of money or something else of value, to the financial gain of the perpetrator.

Tips for Protection

- Never share your online banking credentials with anyone.
- Never access your bank accounts using a public computer.
- Always monitor your accounts regularly for unauthorized transactions. Report any suspicious activity to your bank immediately.
- Always be skeptical of any change in wiring or disbursement instructions via email. Confirm any changes by calling your contact directly using a known phone number, not the number provided in the email.



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