

Common Scams



Broome County Sheriffs Office

What is the Goal of a Scam

- ◆ Scammers look to force quick action to limit the amount of thought you give to decisions
 - ◆ Fear (threats of arrest, Money being stolen, Etc)
 - ◆ Rushing you into giving information
- ◆ Scammers want you to keep secret about your interactions
 - ◆ The less people who know, the less to stop you
 - ◆ Many stores are familiar with scam processes, and may try to intervene
- ◆ Scammers want to get as much money or value out of you as quickly as possible



Who is trying to scam?



- ◆ Typically scams will originate overseas with large scale call centers
- ◆ Some cases of Domestic Scam centers or groups, typically on a smaller scale
- ◆ Recent uptick in the use of third parties to pick up sums of cash in person



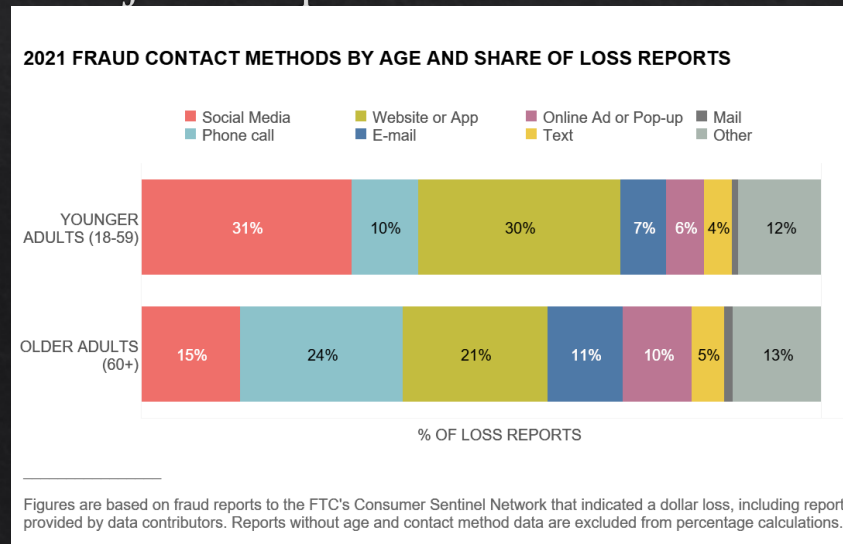
How does a Scammer collect Money?

- ◇ Store Gift cards/ Visa Gift Cards
- ◇ CASH
- ◇ Bank Accounts/Transfers
- ◇ Credit Cards



Major Signs of a Scam

- ◇ Demanding that you stay on the phone, including while in the bank or store
- ◇ Demanding that you lie about your intentions or reasons for taking out money or buying gift cards
- ◇ Insistence that non-compliance will result in immediate negative action
- ◇ Shaming you into believing that you are part of a criminal enterprise
- ◇ Rushing the victim is a major component of most scams



Tech Support Scam



- ◇ Typically starts with a pop up on your computer, or an email
- ◇ This pop up on the computer will typically appear legitimate, and will direct you to call a number provided, which will not lead to Microsoft or whatever the pop-up claims to be
- ◇ Emails may contain links requesting you to log into accounts for security purposes
- ◇ Email address may look to be real at first glance, but may however be fraudulent
- ◇ Pop-ups and Emails will claim immediate action is needed



Grandparents Scam

- Caller pretends to be a relative
- May know personal information
- Pretends to be in legal trouble
- Requests financial aide
- Urges that you hurry





Contractor Scams

- ◆ Demands cash payment before work begins
- ◆ Has no Identification or Address
- ◆ Requests you use a specific lender
- ◆ Asks you sign things quickly without looking



Sweepstakes/Lottery

- ◆ Claims you won a contest you never entered
- ◆ Asking for your financial information
- ◆ Claims money will be put into your account, and as soon as it is, you are pressured to return some of it
- ◆ Too good to be True



How to protect yourself

Never Let anyone
rush you into making
a decision

Have a Trusted
person to contact in
the case of an
emergency (Family,
Friend, Care Giver)

If there is any
Question of
legitimacy, visit your
financial institution
IN PERSON

If you Question
Police involvement,
CALL US, or stop in.
POLICE DO NOT
TAKE MONEY!

Do not Click on
Links in Emails, Go
to the Company
Website instead

Never buy Large
Quantities of Gift
cards

Be Honest with
financial institutions,
They typically have
training on Scams

WHEN IN DOUBT
ASK SOMEONE
ELSE

Resources

United States Dept. Of Justice (877-438-4338) www.ftc.gov

Internal Revenue Service (800-829-0433) www.irs.gov

Social Security Administration (800-772-1213)
<https://ssa.gov>

NYS Attorney General (800-771-775) <https://ag.ny.gov/>

NYS Better Business Bureau (800-828-5000)
<https://www.bbb.org>

National Consumers League (202-835-3323)
www.Fraud.org

To Report a Crime

Broome County Sheriffs office

Non-Emergency Dispatch (607-778-1911)

Emergency Dial 911

www.gobroomecounty.com/sheriff