

Don't Fall Victim Of A Scam

“Kindness is language the blind can see and the deaf can hear.” *Mark Twain*

When there is a national crisis, it is a natural instinct to want to help others. Yet, there are those out there that will take advantage of those who are trying to help. Scammers will use creative ways to get their hands on your money, personal information, or anything they can use to their advantage. Here are a few ways that you can protect yourself while still trying to help.

If It Looks Too Good To Be True...

- Be careful responding to offers to save on commodities that are in short supply, extreme discounts, or deals that are too good to be true.
- Be wary of official looking emails offering financial support or awards that require “administrative” fees up front.
- Scammers will masquerade as banking companies and will email you a request to follow a link to confirm your personal information as a result of the national disaster.
- Watch for offers to participate in fund raising efforts through social media or email. Before donating, verify the source is a legitimate charity.

Recognizing Fraudulent Emails

- Does the sender's email address look like a legitimate business address?
- If the message is impersonal and they should be calling you by name, be suspicious.
- Carefully mouse over the link in the message/email and you see a link that is not reasonable for the sender.
- Any email or message that includes a threat or demand. This is not an acceptable way to do business and is likely trying to tempt you to respond.
- Anything that asks for payment up front.
- A long lost friend suddenly messages/emails you but there is no identifiable information or they cannot verify key pieces of information.

When in doubt, make a call or demand a written letter!



Questions about safety?
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