

Scams!

Life is getting complicated for young and old alike. So sad that the thieves try to get your money by lying, too. Here are examples of scams you should be leery of, whether by phone or email.

Phone calls from anyone you don't know asking for money for any reason. The IRS asking for past due taxes.

"Relative" asking for emergency money to be sent right away to get them out of jail, pay a hospital bill, or other contrived emergencies.

Organizations with tricky names that may sound official or familiar but are not affiliated nor legitimate.

Credit card companies calling to alert you about suspicious activity on your card. Rather than giving them information, call the number on the back of your credit card to verify.

E-mails scams can be:

You won money but have to send proof before sending you your winnings. SCAM! You won't see your "winnings".

A notice that your computer is malfunctioning and you need to "click here" to get it fixed. SCAM! You may download a virus, bug, or lose your info.

A friend sending a short message stating "You won't believe this", "This is unreal", "I knew you'd want to see this" and to click on a link to see what they're talking about. SCAM! If you click on it, you may download a virus or a program that sends all your keystrokes to scammers; you won't even know it.

Asking you to buy gift cards and send to them or call them back and give the numbers so they can start using the cards. No legal entity does this.

An honest caller will not get upset if you check on them. They may even encourage it. If you get any pressure, hang up. Someone may be lying to you.

Dan - Community Awareness