



Crime Alert Bulletin

SCAM/FRAUD INCIDENT

January 16th, 2020

Earlier today, UPD was contacted by a person who reported being the victim of a scam fraud via text messaging. “Mobile Phishing” or “Smishing” occurs when a scammer impersonates a friend, family member in trouble or employer and then attempts to trick you into providing personal information or buying gift cards and sending photos of the codes to them. The scammer will usually have completed some research in order to sound very convincing to you.

The best advice is to be very suspicious and remain on guard. Never tap or click links in messages, look up numbers and website addresses and input them yourself. Don’t give any information to a caller unless you’re certain they are legitimate – you can always call them back.

How to Avoid Smishing Scams

<https://www.fcc.gov/avoid-temptation-smishing-scams>

How to Avoid Phone Scams

<https://www.consumer.ftc.gov/articles/0076-phone-scams>

How to Avoid Fraud

<https://www.consumer.ftc.gov/articles/0060-10-things-you-can-do-avoid-fraud>

What is Phishing?

<https://www.consumer.ftc.gov/articles/0003-phishing>

What is Spoofing?

<https://www.fcc.gov/consumers/guides/spoofing-and-caller-id>

For additional information or to report a scam or fraud to the Federal Trade Commission contact <https://www.ftccomplaintassistant.gov/#crnt&panel1-1>. If you need any additional information or assistance, please contact the University Police at 727-873-4444 or police@usfsp.edu.

SEE SOMETHING. SAY SOMETHING.

CALL UPD: **727-873-4444**



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