

INTERNET SAFETY

How to avoid Internet Fraud

- Never open suspicious e-mail
- Always compare the link in the e-mail to the link you are directed to
- Log onto the official website instead of "linking" to it from unsolicited e-mail
- Contact the actual business that sent the e-mail to verify its authenticity
- Beware of anything from out of the country. These scams usually involve overpayments of money for goods such as a vehicle or for a rental deposit. They often ask you
 - to deposit or hold money for them in your personal information
 - to refund a partial amount of the overpayment
 - for account information
- Use a firewall
- Use secure websites (Over a secure connection the URL (address) displayed should begin with https – note the "s" at the end; Look for a padlock icon – Microsoft Internet Explorer displays the icon in the lower-right of the browser window. Mozilla's FireFox Web Browsers displays the lock icon in the lower-left corner.
 - The lock icon is not just a picture. Click (or double-click) on it to see details of the site's security. This is important to know because some fraudulent web sites are built with a bar at the bottom of the web page to imitate the lock icon of your browser! It is necessary to test the functionality built into this lock icon.