



Online Identity Theft

AVOID SCAMS

Secure Your Computer

Use Security Software that updates automatically. Don't buy software in response to unexpected pop-up messages or emails, especially messages that claim to have scanned your computer and found malware.

Treat your personal information like cash

Don't hand it out to just anyone. Your Social Security number, credit card numbers, and bank and utility account numbers can be used to steal your money or open new accounts in your name.

Protect your passwords

Longer passwords are tougher to crack. Use a combination of letters, numbers and special characters. Create a password that is at least 10 characters in length.

Helpful Links/Email

www.ftc.gov/complaint
spam@uce.gov
reportphishing@antiphishing.org

"Phishing" pronounced "fishing" is a growing form of online identity theft

When internet fraudsters impersonate a business to trick you into giving out your personal information, it's called phishing.

Don't reply to email, text, or pop-up messages that ask for your personal or financial information. Don't click on links within them either—even if the message seems to be from an organization you trust. It isn't. Don't call phone numbers provided in the messages either. These messages direct you to spoof sites that look real but whose purpose is to steal your information so a scammer can commit fraud in your name. Instead, delete these messages and report them to reportphishing@antiphishing.org as well as the company, bank or organization impersonated in the email.

First Bank & Trust Co. or any other legitimate business will never ask you to send sensitive information through unsecure channels.

Examples of Phishing Messages

You open an email or text, and see a message like this:

"We suspect an unauthorized transaction on your account. To ensure that your account is not compromised, please click the link below and confirm your identity."

"During our regular verification of accounts, we couldn't verify your information. Please click here to update and verify your information."