



# **PROTECT YOURSELF FROM SCAMS & FRAUD**

Views and conclusions expressed by Seacoast Bank or its employees in this presentation and handouts associated herewith are for demonstrative purposes only and should neither be considered nor used as a substitute for financial, investment or legal advice. Furthermore, Seacoast Bank and its employees do not endorse any third-party products or services noted or discussed herein. In addition, no guaranty or warranty, either expressed or implied, is attached in any regard to this presentation or its associated handouts. Any reproduction, distribution, sharing, or modification of this material without the express written permission of an authorized agent of Seacoast Bank is prohibited.





# TABLE OF CONTENTS

- 3** Most Common Types of Fraud
- 5** Warning Signs
- 7** Protect Yourself
- 9** How to report

# THREE MOST COMMON TYPES OF FRAUD



**IDENTITY  
THEFT**



**IMPOSTER  
SCAMS**



**ONLINE SHOPPING  
& NEGATIVE  
REVIEWS**

Dunn, A. (2022, September 7). *Financial Health Pulse® 2022 U.S. trends report*. Financial Health Network. Retrieved November 10, 2022, from <https://finhealthnetwork.org/research/financial-health-pulse-2022-u-s-trends-report/>

# PHISHING: AN INCREASING THREAT

30%

Approximately **1 in every 99 emails** is a phishing attack, and about 30% of those make it past default security.

47%

**LinkedIn** phishing messages make up 47% of social media phishing attempts.

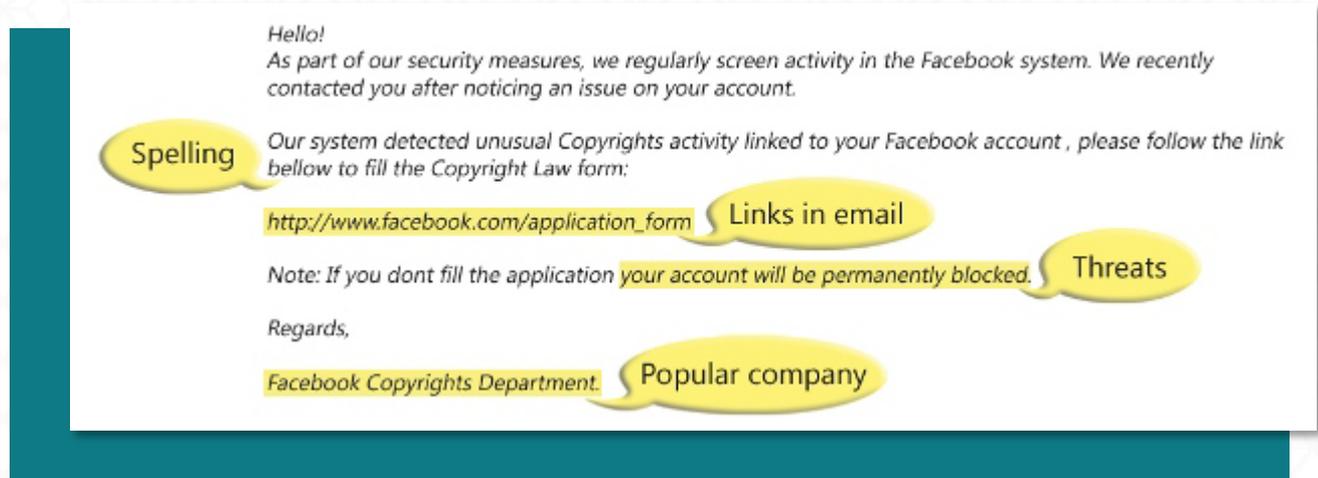
## Most phishing emails commonly contain malicious files or links:

- **Spoofted links** trick you into entering your **login credentials** into a look-alike website. Those credentials are then harvested.
- **Malicious files** automatically download or install files that provide the attacker **prolonged access** to the system.

Sources: <https://smallbiztrends.com/2019/07/phishing-statistics.html>, <https://www.cobalt.io/blog/top-cybersecurity-statistics-for-2022>, <https://www.infosecurity-magazine.com/news/covid19-massive-q1-phishing/>, [Phishing, Smishing and Vishing: What's the Difference? - Experian](#)

# PHISHING EMAILS: THINGS TO LOOK FOR

Here is an example of what a phishing scam in an email message might look like:



**Beware of links.** When you hover over it (don't click) does it match the senders name?



<https://www.seacoastbank.com/resource-center/blog/how-to-recognize-a-phishing-scam>

## SMISHING: FRAUDULENT TEXTS

### Be Suspicious of text messages when:

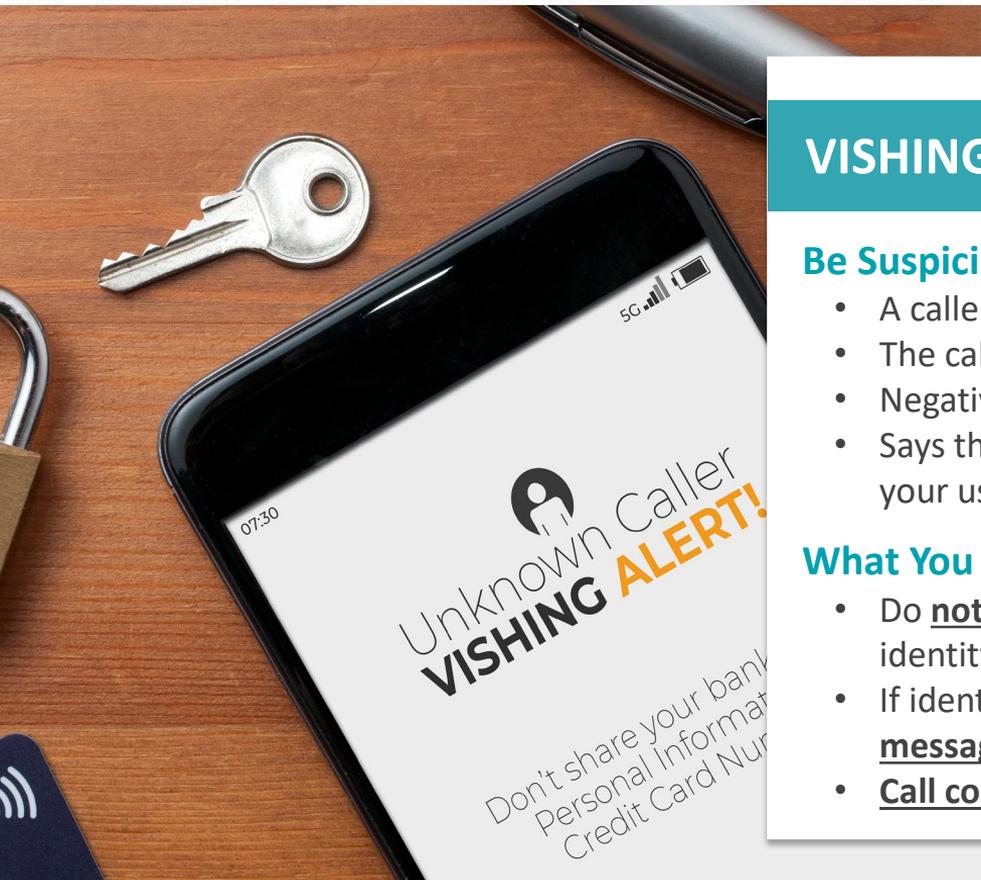
- Unusual or unexpected
- Requests a reply
- Requests unusual information or action
- Unfamiliar number
- Urgent
- Sender is unavailable to talk to you directly
- Unusual for you to receive a text from the sender

### What You Should Do:

- **Not reply**
- **Call the supposed sender** at a known number
- **Contact someone** else who can confirm sender's location if sender is unavailable



[Phishing, Smishing and Vishing: What's the Difference? - Experian](#)



## VISHING: VOICE PHISHING

### Be Suspicious When:

- A caller requests information about you or your family
- The caller expresses a sense of urgency
- Negative consequences could result if action is not taken
- Says they are an employee of a company and requests your username or password or other sensitive information

### What You Should Do:

- Do **not give any information** to caller without proper identity verification
- If identity cannot be validated, tell caller you will **take a message or call them back**
- **Call company** at a known phone number

## HOW IS YOUR PERSONAL INFO USED?

**Personally Identifiable Information (PII)** is any piece of information meant to identify a specific individual.

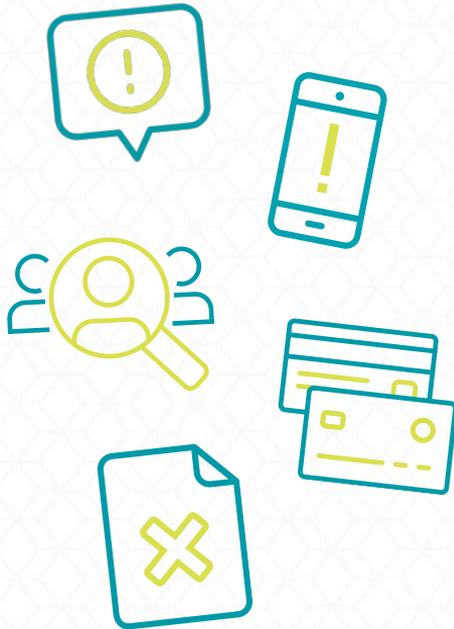
### Scammers can use this info to:

- Change your address and order a new credit card
- Open new accounts
- Establish cell phone service in your name
- Drain your checking and savings accounts
- Take out a loan or mortgage in your name
- Wire fraud
- File a fraudulent tax refund
- Give your name when arrested
- Apply for a job
- Receive medical treatment/medical fraud

### Personally Identifiable Information (PII)



# SIGNS YOUR IDENTITY MAY HAVE BEEN STOLEN



- Fraudulent charges on your credit card statement
- Credit card or bank paper statements not arriving (if applicable)
- Bills arrive for goods or services you did not request/purchase
- Suspicious inquiries on your credit report
- Phone calls from creditors
- Suddenly denied credit



## PROTECT YOURSELF FROM FRAUD

- Set up **account alerts** to notify you of potentially fraudulent activity
- **Be cautious** when revealing your User IDs and passwords online, including on financial websites that provide tools for financial management, investing and tax preparation
- **Regularly check** your account transactions and balances
- **Shield your PIN number** when using it and do not leave your receipt at the ATM, gas pump or other retail location
- **Use strong passwords** and change them regularly

# IF YOU SUSPECT YOUR IDENTITY IS BEING MISUSED

## What to do:

File a police report, obtain a case number and request a copy of the report

File a complaint with the Federal Trade Commission: **877.438.4338**

Close all accounts that were affected ASAP

Call Social Security Administration: **800.772.1213**

Call United States Postal Inspector: **877.876.2455**

Keep a detailed log and keep copies of all correspondence

Place fraud alerts on all your accounts and with the credit reporting agencies

# HOW TO PLACE A FRAUD ALERT

- Contact **one** of the credit bureaus
- Make sure they have your current contact information
- Placing a fraud alert allows you to receive one free credit report from each credit bureau
- The fraud alert will stay on your record for one year

## Equifax

[Equifax.com/personal/credit-report-services](https://www.equifax.com/personal/credit-report-services)  
800.685.1111

## Experian

[Experian.com/help](https://www.experian.com/help)  
888.EXPERIAN (888.397.3742)

## Transunion

[TransUnion.com/credit-help](https://www.TransUnion.com/credit-help)  
888.909.8872



Always question everything, from phone calls to mail solicitations to emails to social media links. If you're not 100% confident that the person and reason are legitimate, do not share."

# CONNECT WITH US



## ONLINE ANYTIME

Visit us online at  
[SeacoastBank.com](https://www.seacoastbank.com)



## CUSTOMER SUPPORT

Call us at **800.706.9991**  
Mon - Fri | 7am - 10pm  
Saturday | 8:30am - 5pm  
Sunday | CLOSED



## SCHEDULE AN APPOINTMENT

Scan the QR code to  
meet with a  
representative near  
you to discuss your  
financial needs.



THANK YOU

for your time.