**Archived Scam Alerts:**

**JURY DUTY SCAM**:

This scam is not new but has become popular recently and, on the surface, may appear legitimate, but it is not.   Community Members have received a phone call from some portraying themselves from the Fairfax County Sheriff’s Office (or any Law Enforcement Agency) using “official terminology” stating you have missed jury duty and a bench warrant has been filed against you.  In the information given they will provide a way for you to alleviate going to court/jail by paying a fine which you can only do over the phone and normally via gift cards.  Anytime someone wants payment in the form of gift cards it is a red flag that it is a scam, HANG UP!   Real notification for jury duty and notification you missed jury duty are never over the phone, nor will the courts demand payment or personal information over the phone.  If you are concerned, please hang up and contact the Court or Police Department directly via a phone number you obtained from a search you did yourself and not from the person on the phone.

**IRS scams:**  The scammers are becoming more and more craftier.  IRS impersonators have been around for a while, so they are switching up their game by contacting you about a tax rebate or refund payment plan.  Here are a few things to remember:

* The IRS will not call, email or text to contact you first.   They always start by sending a letter.  Confirm by calling the IRS directly 800-829-1040
* Never click on links in unexpected texts, emails or use the phone number from a voice mail you receive (that goes for any scam).
* Be wary of phishing emails or texts.   Phishing email/texts are designed to lure a victim by convincing you it is coming from a trusted sender.   You believe the email/text to be real and provided confidential information such as password, bank account information, etc but it is a scam website.
* Do your own research on the correct contact information.  In another browser search the company’s website to obtain the correct information.
* If you want to find the status of any pending refund, go to the IRS official website.

**FALSE POLICE DEPARTMENT COMMUNICATION**

The police department does not ask for donations or fundraise. If you receive any request stating, they are with the Fairfax County Police Department and are fundraising and/or asking for donations it is a scam.

In addition to not asking for donations law enforcement, whether local or federal, will not call you demanding payment to resolve a warrant, failing to report for jury duty, etc. No law enforcement agency will ask you for money or payment in the form of gift cards to avoid arrest. Scammers will make their caller ID appear as if they are calling from a legitimate number. Do not confirm your identity with the scammer and avoid giving out any personal information.

**New Spoofing Scam**

If you have received a voicemail from an unknown number stating "This is Lt. Grey from the Fairfax Police McLean Station. I need you to call me back at 703-420-7857 regarding a legal matter" this is a SCAM!I

**Travel Scams**

**Hotel Check-In Scam**

You arrive at your hotel and check in at the front desk and will be in room 321. Typically, the front desk will ask for your credit card, no reason to be concerned as this is common practice.

The hotel receives a phone call and is asked to be transferred to room 321.

You are settling into your room and receive a phone call from the front desk informing you there is an issue with the card you gave, can you please read me the credit card number again and provide the last 3 numbers on the back of the card, how your name appears on the card and your address.

You don't think anything of it but in actuality it is a scammer trying to get your credit card information.

Even if the situation may sound plausible NEVER give out personal information over the phone. Go down to the front desk in person. You will find the demeanor of the person on the phone who was once pleasant becomes aggressive and persistent that you do not need to go to the front desk.

**Room Service Scam**

You get back to your hotel room and decide you want to order-in food and room service is closed. A flyer was pushed under your door from a local restaurant and decide to place an order. You provide them with all of your credit card information and expect food to be delivered but it never comes. ALWAYS do your own research and not what is given to you. Based off your own information make sure the information matches.

**Last Minute Rentals**

A great advertisement for a rental property for the week near a beach, a lake or a river for the summer piques your interest. Waiting till the last minute to book a place to stay may increase your chances of becoming scammed. Do your own research. What is advertised may not be as it appears or place at all.

* Use a credit card when travelling as it gives you the best fraud protection.
* Review you receipts and statements as there may be some extra fraudulent charges.
* Set up transaction alerts when there is a purchase made from your credit and/or debit card.