

Nate's *news*

The banking industry has seen fraudsters getting creative to scam people out of money, and technology has opened new avenues. Here are a few ideas to help you avoid having to deal with criminals:

***If you do not know the person or website you are doing business with, spend some time researching them. Trust but verify before completing your transaction.**

Ex. Making a new purchase over the internet. Stop, open up another internet window and search the company. Find out where they're located and see if the website looks reputable. Most scams will have inconsistent information.

***Companies that you already have a relationship with will NOT ask you for personal information – they already have your information.**

Ex. Your cell phone company requires you to give them your information to receive your phone and set up your account. If someone calls to do any upgrade on your phone, they do not need additional information to complete that process. End the call you are on and call the location you received the phone from to help with the upgrade.

***Ads that pop up on your social media accounts may be scammers trying to get you to click on a link that directs you to a fraudulent website.**

Ex. As you're scrolling through Facebook, an ad for a product you're interested in shows up. Instead of clicking the link, exit Facebook and search the company on your own.

Be smart about your choices and take an extra minute to think before giving out personal information.

Sincerely,

Nathan Baune

Market President/CCO