

**IMPORTANT! READ BEFORE YOU CLICK!**



## **TOP 4 HOLIDAY SCAMS TO WATCH OUT FOR**



### **Shipping & Delivery Scams**

#### **Fake delivery notifications**

Scammers will email or text you using the most common shipping services logos to trick you into clicking. The bogus link then takes you to a page that requires personal info to verify your delivery.

*\*Never click on any link - always go to the website directly to verify it is legit.\**

### **Fake Charities**

#### **Donation Request**

Scammers will try to rope you into donating to their fake charity via phone calls, text, emails and even snail mail. Always verify the legitimacy of the charity before clicking or giving out any personal info.

Try [GIVE.ORG](https://www.give.org) or [CHARITYNAVIGATOR.COM](https://www.charitynavigator.com).

### **Gift Card Fraud**

#### **Free Gift Card Ads or Promotion Emails**

Steer clear of anything that looks too good to be true. Avoid third-party or auction websites, as they often try to "sell" fake, expired or valueless gift cards.

*\*Never use a debit card to pay for these - it could give them access to your bank account\**

### **Bogus Ads**

#### **Ads linking to retail websites**

Counterfeit retail websites are easy to create and mimic the real thing. Letters from Santa ads are the most commonly used. Secure websites start with "HTTPS" and will have a little lock icon. *\*Check the name of the company on the [Better Business Bureau](https://www.bbb.org) site to be sure it is legit.\**