

Fraud Alert

Scammers are Exploiting the Government Shutdown with Phishing Schemes.



These government shutdown scams generally offer funds or access to benefits many people worry will be frozen or more challenging to access until reopening. The messages urge recipients to act fast - a common feature of online scams.

Warning Signs of a Scam

- Consumers are directed to fake websites like www.myreliefcheck.com.
- Consumers are encouraged to share personal information scammers use in identity theft, including birth dates and social security numbers.
- Consumers are asked to pay a small registration fee which requires disclosures of credit card or banking information.
- Consumers are told there are unclaimed relief funds or refunds available.

With the U.S. government shutdown, phishing scams linked to government agencies are on the rise, with fraudsters offering unclaimed government relief funds or refunds through calls or emails.

If you or someone you know has responded to one of these messages, it is imperative to contact the banks with which you do business immediately.



Heritage Bank customers who have given out personal information after being targeted by a scammer should contact their local branch.



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