

INTERNET CRIMES

If you are a victim of an internet scam, you can and *should* file a report with the FBI at <https://www.ic3.gov>

FREEZING YOUR CREDIT

If your social security number has been compromised, go **online** to the three credit bureau's websites and freeze your credit as soon as you realize it's happened. It is *free* and will prevent whoever has your social security number from doing any damage. **You will need to visit each individual website and create a separate PIN for all three.**

- [Experian](#)
- [Equifax](#)
- [Transunion](#)

USEFUL TIPS TO AVOID VICTIMIZATION

- If it sounds too good to be true, such as a great price on a puppy, it probably is
- You can not pay any amount of money in any form to get out of a warrant
- The IRS or any government agency will not call you and request personal information or monetary compensation—these agencies communicate almost solely through writing
- If you are a seller on Craigslist, LetGo, OfferUp, Facebook Marketplace, etc. and someone sends you a check for much more than your asking price, it is a scam. Cease contact immediately and do not cash the check
- Do not give out any personal information (bank accounts, social security number, etc.) over the phone
- Don't trust your caller ID
- Gift Cards are not accepted as compensation by any credible businesses; if they are requesting gift cards, it is a scam.

CITY OF VIRGINIA BEACH

VIRGINIA BEACH POLICE DEPARTMENT

ECONOMIC CRIMES UNIT



HELPFUL INFORMATION

ECU ASSISTANT
(757) 385-8101
[ECU@vb.gov.com](mailto:ECU@vb.gov)

HOURS OF OPERATION

ECU takes reports in person at Police Headquarters located at:
2509 Princess Anne Road,
Building 11
Virginia Beach, VA 23456
Monday through Friday,
8:30AM until 4:30PM

BEFORE YOU COME

Contact ECU's assistant, Tammy Beiderman at 757-385-8101 **before** coming to Headquarters. If she does not answer, please leave a message and she will return your call as soon as possible.



WHAT TO BRING WITH YOU

Please **print out** all evidence prior to coming in, as we do not have the ability to get information off of your cell phone or online banking access to put in the case file.



- Bank statements with the fraudulent charges highlighted
- Front and back copies of checks
- Any communications, be it emails, text communications (screen shots), etc.
- Copy of your credit report with highlighted fraudulent accounts

CRIMES INVESTIGATED

- Identity Theft
- Embezzlement
- Checks and Credit Card Fraud
- Computer Crime and Fraud
- Bad Checks
- Forgery
- Construction Fraud
- Bigamy
- Forgery
- Counterfeit US Currency and Checks
- Perjury

