



SUGGESTIONS ON HOW TO IDENTIFY SCAMS

Identifying scams and other fraud is getting trickier by the day. Scams and fraud are coming cleverly camouflaged. With sophisticated technology at their disposal, fraudsters (people perpetrating scams and fraud) are able to trick people more effortlessly. Scams are now targeting specific groups in our society. The vulnerable cross-section of the society is open to myriad rip-off schemes. It seems to be part of fraudster's new game plan to target only those who are most likely to fall victim to their scams. Since the scam would appeal to the targeted individuals, they may be reluctant to question its authenticity. This prevents word about the scam from spreading around.

It is suggested that the following five tips should reveal most scams. They are:

1. Take time before committing anything on an offer. If you are asked to respond immediately to an impossible offer, then take it as an indication that the individual/company is pressuring you and counting on you to make a hasty decision. Well, Don't.
2. Discuss the offer with friends. They might be aware of the offer being a scam. If that is not the case then, being unaffected, they might at least be able to read between the lines better.
3. GOOGLE IT! Or, use your favorite search engine. Search for the company, the individuals or the offer on the internet. If it is a scam, chances are you will find all about it online.
4. If the offer is from a popular or well-known company, then confirm the offer with them through independent means. Do not use phone numbers, links, or addresses that came with the offer for this purpose.
5. MAN ON THE STREET RULE. Before revealing any personal information to an online request, think whether you would reveal the same information to a stranger you met on the street. There is no reason to treat an online request differently.

The proliferation of scams on the internet commonly leads us to view even genuine offers with suspicion. But analyzing any offer you get, whether online or offline, these tips should help you distinguish a genuine offer from the scam.

The foregoing information was researched using the internet and there may be other tips and suggestions that may assist you. The foregoing are suggestions only and are not guarantees and require you to use your own judgment in making a decision.