

Bank Investigator Scam

Fraudsters contact consumers by phone asking for their assistance to catch a bank employee who has been stealing money. The consumer is instructed to go to their bank and make a cash withdrawal from their account. They are told not to tell the bank teller what they are doing because the teller may be involved. The consumer is instructed to place the cash in an envelope and meet the "investigator" in a nearby parking lot where the cash is turned over.



In a variation of this scam, a consumer receives a call from fraudsters purporting to be from their bank or a major credit card provider. The fraudsters advise that they are investigating unauthorized charges on the consumer's account or that their account was compromised. In some cases, the fraudsters demand that the consumer provides their credit card information. They also instruct the consumer to send money as "bait money" to help catch the

"employee", using a money wire service such as Western Union or MoneyGram.

Warning Signs - How to Protect Yourself

- Financial institutions, such as banks and credit card companies, will never solicit assistance from their customers or the general public for an internal investigation and or a sting operation.
- Never share banking information over the phone - unless you have called your bank, on a secure line and know exactly who you are speaking with.
- Check your bank statement frequently and report any irregularities to your bank as soon as
- Fraudsters can spoof a name & a number to make it appear that your caller id shows up as your bank, ..when in fact it is not.
- Verify, verify, verify the legitimacy of any request for money and or personal information



Are you a victim? If you suspect that you may be a target of fraud, or if you have already sent funds, don't be embarrassed - you're not alone.

Report to your local Police and the CAFC.

The Canadian Anti-Fraud Centre (CAFC): www.antifraudcentre-centreantifraude.ca,

or call: 1-888-495-8501 (Mon.- Fri. 9am to 4:30pm EST)