

## **Fraud Prevention Tips from the Internet Crime Complaint Center**

- Keep a list of all your credit cards and account information, along with the card issuer's contact information. If your monthly statement looks suspicious or you lose your card(s), contact the issuer immediately.
- Be skeptical of individuals representing themselves as members of well know charitable organizations asking for your monetary aid
- To ensure contributions to U.S. based non-profit organizations are received and used for intended purposes, go directly to their individual websites, as opposed to following links sent to you in an e-mail.
- Be skeptical of e-mails appearing to be from reputable institutions you recognize or have accounts with that contain minor mis-spellings or slight grammatical errors (similar to the way that someone who does not speak English as their native language would speak or write).
- Do not respond to any unsolicited (SPAM) incoming e-mails.
- Be leery of e-mails claiming to show pictures of disaster areas in attached files, as the files may contain viruses. Only open attachments from known senders.
- Be skeptical of individuals representing themselves as Nigerian or foreign government officials asking for your help in moving large sums of money.
- Do not believe promises of large sums of money for your cooperation.