

Protect Yourself from Fraud. If it seems too good to be true, then it probably is.

Money Mules

Money mules are unsuspecting victims who become middlemen for criminals trying to launder stolen funds. Victims are lured by the promise of love or a new career opportunity making large sums of money for minimal work. Criminals recruit money mules, send them stolen money and then ask the money mules to wire or transfer the money unwittingly to the criminals. Using the money mule masks the criminal's identity.

The money mule may keep a commission for performing the transfer or wire. The victims of these scams may not only have their bank accounts closed and financial reputation ruined, but are often left financially responsible for returning the stolen funds and face prosecution for their participation.



Common signs of a money mule scam are:

- Requesting your Online Banking credentials (username, passwords, security questions)
- Accepting large sums of money into your account for a new job.
- Transferring or wiring funds out of your account to people you do not know.
- Opening a new account to receive money from someone you do not know.
- Oversea companies requesting money transfer agents.

If you believe that you are participating in a money mule scheme, stop transferring money immediately and notify the bank.

Never give out your Online Banking credentials to anyone. Bank Employees will never ask for your password. Always keep your computers and devices updated and protected from viruses and malware.

For more information please read "Understanding and Protecting Yourself Against Money Mule Schemes" (https://www.us-cert.gov/sites/default/files/publications/money_mules.pdf)