FRAUD ALERT!

From the Office of Denver District Attorney Mitch Morrissey

Don't Get Caught Phishing

Attempts to steal your sensitive information are called "phishing," and it is very prevalent. The sender goes "fishing" for your information by setting up a phony website at which you are asked to supply such information as account numbers, passwords, pin numbers, Social Security Numbers, etc. Phishing is attempted by e-mail and telephone.

DA Mitch Morrissey is especially concerned about two recent phishing scams:

1) The Social Security Administration has issued a special alert about an e-mail that discusses proposed SSA benefits increases for 2007. The e-mail threatens the suspension of Social Security benefits if personal information is not immediately provided on the supplied phony web link. To review the SSA alert, go to: www.socialsecurity.gov and click on the alert "Public warned about E-mail scam linked to cost-of-living update."
2) E-mails purportedly from amazon.com, e-Bay, PayPal, etc. list an item you ordered. The e-mail further provides the amount being charged to your credit card, as well as an opportunity to cancel on a supplied link or form if you did not place the order. This scam has been very lucrative as victims believed someone had used their information to order an item and they simply wanted to stop it - only in canceling the order, did they become victimized!

To protect yourself:

- ✓ Don't panic. The sender wants you to respond without thinking.
- ✓ Never respond to e-mails or callers asking you to submit personal data.
- ✓ If in doubt, call us at the Denver DA's Fraud Line, 720-913-9179.

CASE partnership

For assistance call the
Denver DA's Fraud Line: 720-913-9179
www.denverda.org

CASE is a Partnership of the District Attorney and the community to Prevent Elder Financial Exploitation

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