

FRAUD ALERT

Advance Fee Scam



Common Victims: Anyone
Method of Contact: Telephone / Email / Mail

This fraud takes the form of an offer, either by mail, fax, telephone, or email in which you are given the chance to share a huge sum of money in return for using the recipient's bank account to transfer the money out of the country. The perpetrators will often then use the bank account details to empty a victim's bank account. In some instances, they also convince the victim that money is needed up front to pay for fees or is needed to bribe officials.

Another version of this is receiving a request from a person or company unknown to you in which you receive a check for several thousand dollars and you are asked to deposit the check and then wire only a small amount of the check forward to the perpetrator, and for your time you get to keep the majority of the check. Of course, the check and the funds to go with it are fake and the money you wire to them is from your actual bank account, so you lose the amount you are asked to wire.