Watch Out for Stimulus Payment Scams

On March 27, 2020, the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act was signed into law, detailing how the economic stimulus payments will be determined as well as distributed to individuals. And before any payments were made, scammers were already scheming to steal your payment and your personal and financial information.

The Internal Revenue Service (IRS) is advising taxpayers to be wary of phone calls, emails, text messages, and social media posts around the upcoming stimulus payments, especially those that ask for money or sensitive information be provided in order to receive funds.

Tips to help avoid a scam

- Know if you are eligible for a stimulus payment and the amount you should be receiving. Visit the IRS website at https://www.irs.gov/coronavirus/economic-impact-payment-information-center to understand your eligibility.

- Be suspicious if you receive a stimulus check with an unusual payment amount, an amount that includes cents, or that requires you to call a phone number or verify your information before you can cash it.

- The government will not ask you to pay anything in advance, or provide personal or bank account information, to receive your stimulus payment.

- The government will not be contacting you regarding your stimulus payment, including asking for your Social Security number, bank account number, passwords, or credit or debit card number. Additionally, you should not be asked to verify your tax filing information.

- Be wary of unsolicited phone calls, emails, text messages, or social media messages, especially those requesting you to share personal, financial or account information.

- Verify any requests for information using an alternative method before taking any action, such as opening an attachment or clicking on a link. Locate the entity’s phone number from a trusted source, such as their secure website or a recent bill or statement, or the back of your credit or debit card, if the caller is purporting to be from your bank. Use that phone number to call back to verify that the caller and the reason for contacting you are legitimate.

To learn more about the economic stimulus program, visit the IRS website at https://www.irs.gov/coronavirus.

If you receive a suspicious email claiming to be from Huntington, please let us know by forwarding the email to ReportFraud@huntington.com.
How Huntington can help

Certain Huntington checking accounts include access to credit score and/or identity monitoring1 at no added cost. Learn more about these services and how to enroll at huntington.com/help-protect-yourself.

Visit huntington.com/Security for more tips on protecting yourself and to learn more about how we help protect your privacy and keep your information secure.

If you think you may be a victim of fraud related to your Huntington credit or debit card, or your card has been lost or stolen, please let us know right away at (800) 480-2265.

---

1 The Monitoring Services are optional and are not available with all accounts. Enrollment requires agreement to the Services' Terms & Conditions, which include important legal terms that a customer should read carefully before deciding to enroll.

The information provided in this document is intended solely for general informational purposes and is provided with the understanding that neither Huntington, its affiliates nor any other party is engaging in rendering tax, financial, legal, technical or other professional advice or services or endorsing any third-party product or service. Any use of this information should be done only in consultation with a qualified and licensed professional who can take into account all relevant factors and desired outcomes in the context of the facts surrounding your particular circumstances. The information in this document was developed with reasonable care and attention. However, it is possible that some of the information is incomplete, incorrect, or inapplicable to particular circumstances or conditions. NEITHER HUNTINGTON NOR ITS AFFILIATES SHALL HAVE LIABILITY FOR ANY DAMAGES, LOSSES, COSTS OR EXPENSES (DIRECT, CONSEQUENTIAL, SPECIAL, INDIRECT OR OTHERWISE) RESULTING FROM USING, RELYING ON OR ACTING UPON INFORMATION IN THIS DOCUMENT EVEN IF HUNTINGTON AND/OR ITS AFFILIATES HAVE BEEN ADVISED OF OR FORESEEN THE POSSIBILITY OF SUCH DAMAGES, LOSSES, COSTS OR EXPENSES.

Third-party product, service and business names are trademarks and/or service marks of their respective owners.

The Huntington National Bank is Member FDIC. ® Huntington® and ® Huntington. Welcome.® are federally registered service marks of Huntington Bancshares Incorporated. ©2020 Huntington Bancshares Incorporated.