

Information Security Advisory: Holiday Season Phishing Scams and Malware Campaigns

We remind the Lehman community to remain vigilant when browsing online during this holiday season. Please be aware of some current threats:

- Copycat and fake websites that pose as a legitimate ones to capture personal and financial information.
- E-cards and unexpected “gifts” that may be sent from unknown senders and may contain malicious links.
- Fake advertisements, coupons or shipping notifications that may deliver infected attachments or contain malicious links.
- Phishing email messages and fraudulent posts on social networking sites that may request support for phony causes or offer deals that are “too good to be true.”

Tips to avoid seasonal campaigns that could result in a security breach, identity theft or financial loss:

- Approach all unsolicited offers and communications with skepticism and caution.
- Do not click on unsolicited links or download attachments from unknown sources.
- Always compare a link in an email to the link you are actually directed to and determine if it matches and will lead you to a legitimate site.
- Refer to advisories posted on the Lehman IT website or at security.cuny.edu under “CUNY Issued Security Advisories.”
- Only enter your credit card information on secure websites. Such sites are usually indicated by a gold lock or key in the browser address bar and icons labelled “VeriSign Secured.”

Visit the Federal Trade Commission's Consumer Information page on Charity Scams (<http://www.consumer.ftc.gov/features/feature-0011-charity-scams>) for more information.

If you believe you are a victim of an online scam or malware campaign, please report it to the Lehman Help Desk and consider the following actions:

- Contact your financial institution immediately to report any account information that may have been compromised. Watch for any unexplainable charges to your account.
- Immediately change any passwords that you might have revealed. If you used the same password for multiple websites, make sure to change it for each account, and do not use that password in the future.

Best wishes for a safe and enjoyable holiday season.