

Five Scams Affecting Military Personnel and Their Families

As an active duty service member, veteran, or military family member, you have made sacrifices to ensure the freedom and safety of our country. Unfortunately, cybercriminals target military personnel and their families to obtain money and/or personal information.

Keep an eye out for these five scams that could affect you or your family:

1

DFAS PHISHING SCAMS

You receive an email or message from someone claiming to be from the Defense Finance and Accounting Service (DFAS) asking you to click a link or share your personal information in order to process your payments.



RED FLAGS

- The sender is not using a .mil email address.
- They claim there is an issue with your account or financial information.
- The email is poorly written with spelling errors or poor grammar.

2

RENTAL/REAL ESTATE SCAMS

Scammers pretend to be landlords and post fake internet ads for rental properties located around military installations. After you send money for a security deposit or the first month's rent, you find out the property doesn't exist.



RED FLAGS

- The listing is full of typos, poor grammar, or excessive punctuation.
- Someone insists you send a payment before you see the property.
- The landlord is not available to meet in person.

3

ROMANCE IMPOSTER SCAMS

Scammers create fake profiles on dating sites, social media sites, or online gaming platforms to target lonely, isolated service members for financial gain.



RED FLAGS

- After just a few contacts, they profess their love or strong feelings for you.
- They ask for money, often in the form of gift cards, so they can visit you or pay bills.
- When you plan to meet, they cancel or postpone due to an emergency.

4

CHARITY IMPOSTER SCAMS

Fraudulent charities, often with names that sound like real charities claiming to support wounded or disabled veterans, target service members, veterans, or their families asking for financial support.



RED FLAGS

- The charity thanks you for a donation you don't remember making.
- They pressure you into making a donation immediately.
- They want you to donate using cash, gift cards, or wire transfers.

5

FAMILY/FRIEND IMPOSTER SCAMS

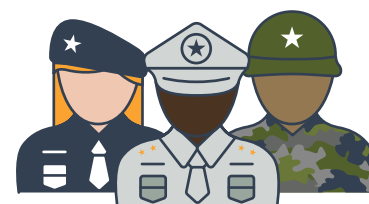
You receive a call from someone claiming to be from the military who says there has been an emergency, and your loved one needs money immediately.



RED FLAGS

- They ask you to send gift cards or a wire transfer right away.
- They insist that you keep their request for money a secret.
- The call comes late at night to catch you off guard.

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For reporting and recovery resources, visit our **MILITARY PERSONNEL & FAMILIES RESOURCE PAGE**

on FraudSupport.org