

MEL CYBER TASK FORCE UPDATE

COVID-19 Phishing Scams

COVID-19, coronavirus and related words/topics are being used by cybercriminals as a theme for phishing attempts. Also, the emails will be branded and formatted in such a way to resemble trusted organizations, such as the World Health Organization (WHO) or Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

Prevention

1. **Unsolicited Emails:** Avoid clicking on links and opening attachments from unsolicited emails.
2. **Trusted Sources:** Go to the trusted websites yourself; do not click on links.
3. **Charity:** Verify the authenticity of charities yourself.
4. **MEL's Email Dos & Don'ts:** Send these four tips and the MEL infographic (attached) to all individuals with access to your network.

Resources

Check-out NJCCIC's bulletin on COVID-19, along with tips for teleworkers working from home:
<https://www.cyber.nj.gov/alerts-and-advisories/20200316/cyber-threat-actors-capitalize-on-coronavirus>
<https://www.cyber.nj.gov/be-sure-to-secure>

Here are the trusted sites referenced above for WHO, CDC and FTC's Charity page:
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>
<https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019/events-as-they-happen>
<https://www.consumer.ftc.gov/articles/0074-giving-charity>

For details, contact the MEL Underwriting
Manager or your local JIF Executive Director



MEL



EMAIL DOs & DON'Ts



EMAIL ADDRESSES

- Do you recognize the sender and the CCs?
- Is the sender's email spelled correctly? (i.e. "YourMayor" vs. "YourMay0r")

DATE & TIME

- Was the email sent on a typical day and at a typical time?

EMAIL CONTENT

- Are the format and grammar in the email typical for the sender?
- Does the content seem atypical?
- Did the sender seem overly urgent?
- Does the email ask for person info/login info?

From: YourMayor@yourtown.com
 To: You@yourtown.com
 Cc: Who@where.com, Who2@Site.com, Who3@Web.com
 Date: Sunday, October 3, 2105 at 3:20 a.m.
 Subject: Wire for Project

Message | Instructions.docx (4 KB)

Hi,
 Im traveling and lost my phone. We need to wire money for a large project to the below link ASAP so the project isnt delayed.
 Could you wire \$15,000 today?

<http://www.chase.com>

Thanks so much.
 Mayor

SUBJECT

- Is the subject a typical style for the sender?
- Does the subject match the email content?

ATTACHMENT

- Is an attachment needed for the email content?
- Were you expecting the attachment?
- Is it a ".txt" file?

LINKS

- Does the link look appropriate?
- Does the web address match the hyperlink shown (scroll over the hyperlink)?

DON'T GET PHISHED!

... but if you do, remember to

1 Report to Claim Administrator

2 Call XL Catlin 24/7 Breach Hotline at **(855) 566-4724** and they will triage your incident.

