Cybersecurity

Hoaxes





Computer Hoaxes

- Not a real threat but acts like one
 - Can seem very real
- Still a waste of time, effort
- Usually come in form of an email
- Pretends to be police, bank, "Federal Justice Division"
- Some hoaxes seek your money
 - Others phishing for login information
- Hoaxes about viruses can waste as much time as a real virus



Examples

Dear Customer,

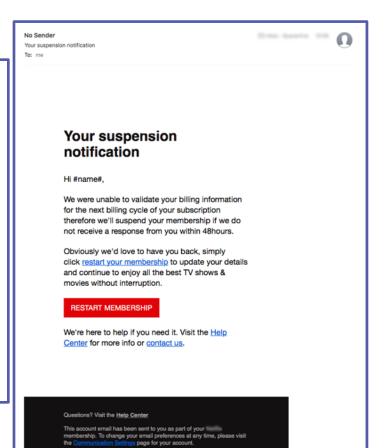
It has come to our attention that your account Billing Information records are out of date. That requires you to update your Billing Information. Failure to update your records will result in account termination.

Click on the reference link below and enter your login information on the following page to confirm your Billing Information records...

Click on to confirm your Billing Information records.

Thanks,

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Defend Against Hoaxes

- Do not click on links in email
 - Mouseover the URL
 - Go directly to bank website (type it in yourself)
- Verify threat
 - Call if you must
- Check credible sources
 - Snopes
- Spam filters usually detect recurring hoaxes



