California State University, Northridge
Department of Police Services

CAMPUS CRIME TREND ALERT

The California State University, Northridge Department of Police Services is providing this notice of a campus crime trend in order to provide information that may help in avoiding similar crimes or provide information that may assist in solving these crimes, leading to an arrest and/or recovery of the stolen property.

EMAIL PHISHING SCAMS

DATE/TIME: Friday January 24, 2020 and Wednesday January 29, 2020 multiple times.

LOCATIONS: Through Email.

REPORTED OFFENSE: Two (2) victims were contacted via email regarding a job opportunity for an affiliate of CSUN. The emails which appeared to be from a CSUN email account contained a link to use to apply. After being accepted for the positions, the victims were directed to purchase blank business checks and to print digital checks that were sent to them. They were then to deposit the checks into their bank accounts and then purchase specific denominations of Ebay gift cards and provide the redemption information to the sender. Both checks were returned for insufficient funds.

CSUN Information Technology has provided the following tips to avoid phishing scams:

- Social Media is the main way a phisher obtains information about you and tailors their e-mails to your interests. Limit personal information you provide in your posts (school, location, full name, etc.), even if you're on private; not everyone who follows you is trustworthy.
- Use unique passwords. A single password used on all of your sites is a hackers best friend. A password can be stolen from a website with lax security and then be used to hack into your accounts. Unique passwords limit the damage to one site. Use a password manager to help you remember or generate your unique passwords.
- Think carefully before clicking on a link or image. Phishing and other malware scams rely on our habit of click first, think later.
- Keep programs up-to-date: Most applications on all your devices have automate update features. Turn them on.
- Turn off Flash or turn on Ad-blocker. Flash Players is popular with hackers. They exploit Flash by inserting malicious bits of code into ad networks used by well-known businesses.

For additional tips and to see samples of phishing scams visit the CSUN Information Technology website at
https://www.csun.edu/it/avoid-fraud-email
or by phone at 818-677-6100

EMERGENCY CONTACTS

24-hour Emergency
9-1-1

From a cell phone
9-1-1

Emergency "BLUE LIGHT" phones and yellow TTY emergency call boxes (connected to CSUN Police)

Report suspicious persons or circumstance anonymously
"We Tip Hotline" –
(818) 677-TIPS (8477)

Visit us on the web:
www.csun.edu/police

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