FORGE

The Arkansas Cyber Defense Center

Charity Scam

This type of attack involves someone posing as a representative for a charity in order to collect money or information from someone.

Common tactics:

- Setting up fake donation collection locations like GoFundMe.
- Requesting donations via direct contact.
- Creating fake profiles, email addresses, and/or websites to pose as legitimate charities.
- Impersonating organizations that provide aid for animals, children, disasters, and veterans.

Red flags:

- Directly asking for donations, often on multiple occasions
- Not giving you a chance to research the charity
- Asking for payment via a gift card
- Vague language about how funds will be used
- Scammer cannot give information about the charity's work

Prevention tips:

- Research a charity before you donate to it.
- If you want to donate to a charity, find their website through a search engine instead of using a provided link.

Immediate actions:

- If you have already sent a wire transfer, contact the issuer to see about stopping the transaction.
- If you have already provided your financial information, contact your financial institution to see about stopping transactions or canceling accounts.
- If the scammer is representing a real charity, contact the real charity to inform them of the situation.

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REPORT A CYBER INCIDENT:

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501-239-9599