BE AWARE:

CRYPTOCURRENCY FRAUD IS ON THE RISE!

An increasing number of bank customers are being scammed into withdrawing cash for the purchase and transfer of cryptocurrency.

The ELECTRONIC FINANCIAL INVESTIGATIONS unit, part of the Ohio Attorney General's Bureau of Criminal Investigation, needs your help to protect unwitting victims.



Red flags

A customer might be the target of a fraud if he or she is:

- Older and seemingly vulnerable or confused.
- On a cellphone being directed what to do.
- Withdrawing an unusually large amount of cash (typically $500 to $20,000).
- Withdrawing cash to deposit into a Bitcoin ATM.



Where is the money going?

A customer might be the target of a scam if he or she is withdrawing cash to:

- Pay bail or remove a warrant for a loved one.
- Pay to have a virus removed from a computer.
- Pay for help with a hacked computer or account.
- Pay a lawyer or a police or government agency.
- Pay a blackmailer to keep alleged pornographic photos private.
- Send funds to an online romantic partner he/she has never met.



How to help your customers

To help your customers, be inquisitive. Ask questions. If you suspect that someone is being victimized, call your local police immediately. BCI readily assists all local and state law enforcement agencies with the investigation of such suspicious activities.

For more information, call 855-BCI-OHIO (855-224-6446) or email Intel@OhioAttorneyGeneral.gov

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