



COUNTY OF YOLO
OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY
JEFF W. REISIG, DISTRICT ATTORNEY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: November 27, 2013

Contact: Dave Edwards, Enforcement Officer
(530) 666-8416

Holiday Internet Shopping Safety Tips

(Woodland, CA) - November 27, 2013 - Yolo County District Attorney Jeff Reisig reminds everyone to be careful when using the internet for holiday shopping.

Cyber-crooks try to trick unknowing victims into giving them access to their computer so they can steal personal information and money. Cyber-crooks often send fraudulent e-mails that appear to be coming from a legitimate source in the hopes victims will open them and inadvertently download malicious programs. Here are some tips to avoid becoming a victim:

- Keep your computer security features turned on and up-to-date to prevent malicious software from sneaking in without you even knowing its there (this software will collect personal and private information such as passwords and account numbers)
- Be very aware and suspicious when you receive notices that appear on your computer out of the blue for unexpected things like package shipping or credit card confirmations
- Exercise heightened caution when you see these strange e-mails
- Resist the temptation to open e-mails or links you are not expecting
- When shopping on-line make sure to do business with reputable companies using encrypted websites for purchases and remember a credit card is often the safest way to make a purchase. Look for the symbol of a closed padlock and that the letters "https" are in the address bar of the business website.
- Keep a record of your on line purchases and copies of confirmation pages in case you need to make a return.
- Be aware that most free public Wi-Fi networks at places like airports and coffee shops are not secure and your personal information could be intercepted by cyber-crooks.

For more information on ways to protect yourself from all kinds of scams contact Dave Edwards at the District Attorney's Office (530) 666-8416.

###