Tips: How Not to Get Hooked by a ‘Phishing’ Scam

If you get an email stating: “During our regular verification of accounts, we couldn’t verify your information. Please click here to update and verify your information.”

Have you received an email with a similar message? It’s a scam called “phishing” that involves criminals sending spam or pop-up messages to obtain personal information (credit card numbers, bank account information, Social Security number, passwords, or other sensitive information) from unsuspecting victims. DO NOT REPLY to these messages.

The Federal Trade Commission (FTC), our nation’s consumer protection agency, suggests these tips to help you avoid getting hooked by a phishing scam:

- If you get an email or pop-up message that asks for personal or financial information, do not reply. And do not click on the link in the message, either. Legitimate companies will not ask for this information via email.
- Use anti-virus and anti-spyware software, as well as a firewall, and update them all regularly. Some phishing emails contain software that can harm your computer or track your activities on the Internet without your knowledge.
- Do not email personal or financial information. Email is not a secure method of transmitting personal information.
- Review credit card and bank account statements as soon as you receive them to check for unauthorized charges. If your statement is late by more than a couple of days, call your credit card company or bank to confirm your billing address and account balances.

In 2003 Congresswoman Napolitano voted for the passage of The Fair and Accurate Credit Transactions Act, which now requires each major credit bureau to provide one free credit report annually to consumers who request a copy. Information on this program is available through the Federal Trade Commission at:

http://www.ftc.gov/bcp/conline/ecams/credit/yer_free_reports.htm
My Dear Seniors:

Our most important issues - access to affordable prescription drugs, protecting both Social Security and Medicare, and keeping seniors informed to protect themselves from fraud and abuse have been some of our key priorities.

This newsletter is an update on new legislative changes to Medicare Part D coverage, on critical information regarding your own privacy, to help you in protecting your own security when using the internet, and to inform you of the many resources available locally that could prove useful to you.

We are ready to assist you with your visa or citizenship application, veterans’ benefits, Social Security, or any other federal service. Please contact my Santa Fe Springs office at 562-801-2134.

Thank you for your trust and for allowing me to continue to serve you in Congress. I am pleased that Congress can now unite and move in a new direction, working with honesty, civility, and respect. I will strive, as I have for the last 8 years, to do my very best to serve you with the utmost integrity and commitment you deserve. May God bless you and our great nation.

Warm regards,

Grace

~ A Message From Congresswoman Napolitano ~

On Thursday, November 9th, Congresswoman Grace F. Napolitano joined with Brig. General James P. Combs, commander of the Joint Forces Training Base in Los Alamitos, to honor local veterans of WWI, and WWII at the Clarke Estate in Santa Fe Springs.

General Combs led the pledge of allegiance and praised the service of veterans of the U.S. Armed Forces. “I am deeply honored to be here recognizing these individuals. When the government calls on you, it requires an act of trust, faith and courage for you to step up to serve your country,” said General Combs.

“We honor those who are currently serving in many areas of the world and pray for their safe return home, as we renew our national promise to fulfill the commitment made and the very sacred obligations to help our veterans who have sacrificed so that we enjoy the freedom we enjoy today,” remarked Congresswoman Napolitano.

She especially thanked the families for their support to their loved ones, encouraging them to also play a larger role in helping other veterans transition to life after service. She emphasized the importance of our community coming together to support the veterans who have come home and have faced challenges.

Congresswoman Napolitano is a proud veteran of the U.S. Marine Corps and understands the importance of supporting our veterans. She continues to fight for the benefits and services that our veterans have earned and deserve.

Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid (Nevada) and House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi (California) also issued statements recognizing the importance of honoring our veterans.

“Men and women who fought for our country should not have to fight their own government for the benefits they are entitled to and earned through their service to our great nation,” said Congresswoman Napolitano.

She particularly thanked the families for their support to their loved ones, encouraging them to also play a larger role in helping returning veterans adjust to civilian life, and stressing the increasing need of mental health services amongst those veterans who have been deployed multiple times.