New Text Message Phishing Scheme

For Public Release
January 29, 2021

The Department of Justice’s National Unemployment Insurance Fraud Task Force (NUIFTF) is issuing this alert to warn people of a new phishing scheme. This scheme involves bad actors, presenting as a state workforce agency (SWA), who send text messages containing a link (see below example). The goal is to trick the recipient into clicking the link and transmitting sensitive information to the sender.

Although law enforcement officials are investigating this phishing scheme, people should remain vigilant and not reply or click the link if they receive such text messages. SWAs do not send text messages soliciting information.

Individuals with information about this or other UI fraud schemes can call (202) 693-6999 or (800) 347-3756, or go to https://www.oig.dol.gov/hotline.htm.