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## The Investigator Newsletter

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### Black Friday and Cyber Monday Scams - Part B



With Black Friday and Cyber Monday being just right around the corner, shoppers need to become aware of the potential **fraudulent** threats that might be coming their way. In 2021, approximately \$20 billion was spent online between Black Friday and Cyber Monday. The abundance of budget-conscious shoppers getting ready for the holidays also comes with cyber-criminals getting ready to attack. According to the Better Business Bureau, 35% of fraud reports in 2021 came from online scams. In this newsletter,

**BCSI** is here to inform you about a few types of Black Friday and Cyber Monday scams and how to avoid them!

#### ***Billing Scams***

- **Scammers** will pose as major retailers or banking institutions, contacting you about an “urgent” message/request. These messages tend to claim that an order of yours has not gone through or that your payment information needs updating. Cybercriminals attempt to create a “sense of urgency” in hopes that you will promptly give them your data.
- How can you avoid this? Official businesses will typically never use harsh or urgent language toward you. If you are concerned, it is best to go straight to the official business to ensure that you are not releasing any of your data to scammers.

#### ***The “Hot Deal” Scam***

- With the hustle and bustle of Black Friday/Cyber Monday deals, scammers love to create fake websites and deals. When a popular item is tough to find, **cybercriminals** may pose as legitimate retailers, or create their own legitimate-looking brands, to lure you in. Once you pay for the goods, you will most likely never receive them, and you have now given your personal information to scammers, who will then use that data to commit further fraud.
- If the deal looks too good to be true, then it most likely is. If you are unsure about an online website, research and read reviews! Additionally, if the webpage or URL looks suspicious, it may be best not to continue with the purchase.

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If you or anyone you know have been a victim of a cryptocurrency fraud either through **enticement**, fake investment platforms, **social media** scams, or even mining frauds, please reach out to us for a free consultation with one of our experienced investigators at 604-922-6572 or via email at [info@picanada.ca](mailto:info@picanada.ca).

For more information about us and the types of services we offer, please visit our website to learn more at [www.picanada.ca](http://www.picanada.ca).

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