



## The Investigator Newsletter

### Dating Scams



#### Swipe with Caution: Spotting Scammers on Dating Apps

##### About Us

Since 2000, BCSI Investigations Inc. has performed thousands of successful investigations. Our integrated team of investigators and support services ensure that the investigations are conducted promptly with leading-edge techniques.

##### Dating Scams

Dating scams are becoming more prevalent with the rise of AI and online dating. Some dating apps, such as Tinder, use face-scanning software to prove that you are the person in your photos. Currently, it is optional for users, but if they complete a face scan, they can see who else has completed it.

##### Signs of a Scammer

The main signs that the person you're talking to may be a scammer include:

- They never want to meet in person.
- They refuse to video chat.
- They try to move the conversation to another app, often an encrypted one like WhatsApp.
- They tell emotional stories (e.g., they're in jail and need money) or offer too-good-to-be-true investment opportunities.

With over 40 years of combined experience, BCSI Investigations Inc. is the platinum standard for private investigations.

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### How is This Effective?

Most people like to believe they are too smart to get scammed, but fraudsters are getting more advanced and harder to identify. They will make you fall in love with them. They will send photos, talk to you on the phone, and plan a whole life with you. Once you fall for them, they will start to bring up investments that can make you rich. Often, they have screenshots of “proof” that this is a real investment, and you will double or triple your money, but none of it is real.

### How to Avoid Scams

The best way to avoid scammers when online dating is to meet the person in real life.

A fraudster will often avoid face-to-face interaction. While AI can be used to fake photos and even simulate video calls like FaceTime, it can't replicate a person in real life. Meeting in person remains the most reliable way to confirm someone's identity. Other tips include:

- Don't leave the dating app until you've met in person.
- Never send any money or give out personal information to someone online.
- Conduct a reverse image search to see if it links to a different person.

For more information on romance scams, check out **episode 2 of the BCSI Investigations podcast, Scams 360**. Listen on **Apple Podcasts, Spotify, or Amazon Music**.

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