

Fraud Alert—Gift Card Scam

H **Howard University Department of Public Safety**
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AllStudents; AllEmployees; AllEmployees-HUH-Only ∨



Fraud Alert—Gift Card Scam

Dear Howard University Community,

The Department of Public Safety's Investigative team wants to alert you to recent fraudulent email scams that have affected some members of the campus community. Specifically, scammers are contacting individuals and claiming to have personal information or photographs of the contacted persons.

To prevent the alleged personal information or photographs from being released to the public, the scammers are requesting that people purchase gift cards from big-box stores such as Walmart and Target, and demanding that they forward the gift card numbers in exchange for their privacy not being further compromised.

Please don't fall for these sorts of scams. While DPS cannot prevent this type of illegal activity, we will keep you informed and prepared to help reduce the risk of you becoming a financial victim of a scam. We are also actively working with other law enforcement entities to investigate the fraudulent activity that is impacting college campuses across the country. We will assist in the investigation to the fullest extent of the law.

If you receive an email message that appears to be fraudulent, please contact the Information Security team at ets-infosec@howard.edu to verify the email's legitimacy. If you've already been victimized by fraudulent activity, please contact DPS at 202-806-1100.

Excellence in Truth and Service,

Department of Public Safety (DPS)