



New Jersey Division of Consumer Affairs

★ ★ **May 5, 2017 FRAUD ALERT** ★ ★

ALERT – **Beware of Facebook Marketplace Scams** – Facebook Marketplace, where individual sellers seek to find buyers for their wares, has also become a hunting ground for scammers, according to an article in the Asbury Park Press. Common practices of the scammers: Offering to pay more than the advertised price, with the stipulation that a refund of overpayment be wired; asking the seller to ship to a far-away place, often in another country; offering to pay by gift card, money cards or money transfer service. In cases such as these, the scammer could end up with the merchandise, plus some of your cash, while you end up with a bounced check or failed payment. The Better Business Bureau urges sellers to stick with verified payment systems, such as PayPal, to avoid getting ripped off. Here's a link to the story: www.app.com/story/money/business/consumer/press-on-your-side/2017/03/21/facebook-marketplace-scam/99424886/.

ALERT – **Stay away from that \$75 Bed Bath & Beyond coupon!** – If you run into a \$75 coupon for Bed Bath & Beyond on Facebook or other social media, stay away. It's a scam, the company says. An article on NJ.com details how the fake ad is really just a phishing attempt. Clicking on the link sends you to a fake Bed Bath & Beyond website, which then asks you fill out a survey. Bogus surveys can be used to steal your personal information. Similar coupon scams feature Lowe's, Home Depot, Target, IKEA. The simple advice for those tempted to click on the ad? Don't do it. Here's a link to the full story: www.nj.com/entertainment/index.ssf/2017/05/bed_bath_and_beyond_mothers_day_coupon_scam.html.

Contact us
if you suspect **FRAUD**



N.J. Division of Consumer Affairs
800-242-5846
FightingFraud.NJ.gov