

FBI Impersonation Scams:

How to Protect Your Bank Account

The FBI or other government agencies are NOT coming to collect your money.

Scammers are using increasingly convincing tactics to frighten people into handing over their savings.

It may start with a phone call claiming your identity has been stolen, or your bank accounts are connected to criminal activity. The caller may say they are working with the FBI, FDIC, or another government agency. They may know personal information about you, provide a case number, or even send official-looking documents.

Then they tell you how to “protect” your money.

You may be instructed to withdraw cash, purchase gold, or other precious metals, or move your savings to a supposed “federal locker,” “government vault” or other secure location. In some cases, victims are told to meet a courier who will collect the money or valuables.

Scammers may also tell you **not to speak with your family, your bank or local law enforcement** because it could interfere with the investigation.

These are major red flags.

Legitimate government agencies will not ask you to withdraw cash, purchase gold or precious metals, or hand your money to a courier for safekeeping. They also will not ask you to keep their instructions secret from your bank or family.

If someone tells you your money is in danger and must be moved immediately:

- **Do not withdraw cash.**
- **Do not purchase gold or precious metals.**
- **Do not meet with a courier.**
- **Do not keep the situation secret.**
- **Stop and contact your bank directly using a phone number you know is legitimate.**

Even if the caller tells you that your bank or bank employees are involved in the investigation, **talk to your bank before moving your money.** They would much rather help you determine whether a situation is legitimate than see you lose your hard-earned savings.

Please share this warning with family, friends, and neighbors. A conversation today could help protect someone from becoming a victim tomorrow.