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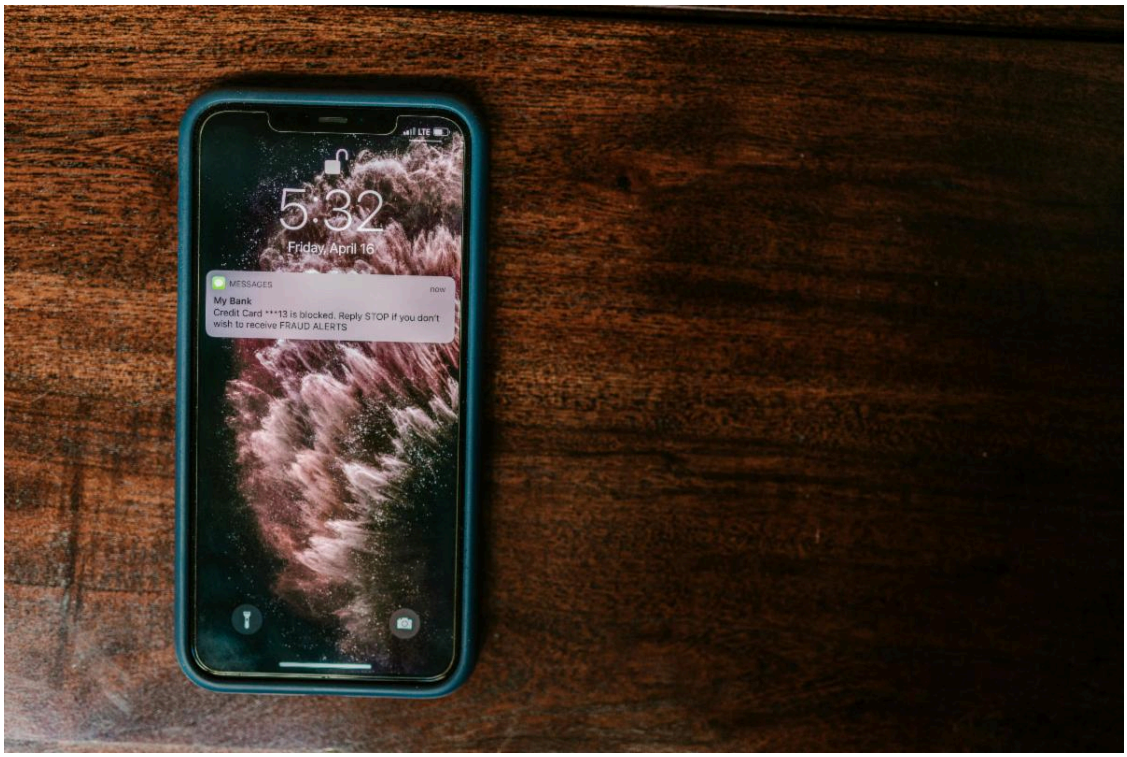
BCSI Investigations Inc.

# The Investigator Newsletter

## Phishing Texts & Smishing Attacks




**The Digital Hook: Understanding Smishing**

### 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.

**The Digital Hook: Understanding Smishing**

We've all seen them: a "missed delivery" notification with a suspicious link, or a frantic alert that your bank account has been frozen. These are smishing attacks, a portmanteau of "SMS" and "phishing." While email phishing is the old guard, smishing is the modern predator, leveraging the high open rates and personal nature of text messaging.

**How Smishing Works**

Unlike emails, which often land in spam folders, texts hit your pocket instantly. Scammers use social engineering to create a sense of urgency or fear, hoping you'll click before you think.

***The goal is usually one of two things:***

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

Contact us at 604-922-6572 or visit our website at www.picanada.ca to learn more.

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1. **Credential Theft.** Leading you to a fake login page (cloned to look like Netflix, Amazon, or a bank) to steal your username and password.
2. **Malware Installation.** Prompting you to download a "tracking app" that is actually spyware designed to monitor your keystrokes.

**Red Flags to Watch For**

- **The "Urgent" Hook.** Phrases like "Action Required Immediately" or "Your account will be deleted in 1 hour."
- **Suspicious Links**. URLs that look almost right but are slightly off.
- **Unexpected Success**. Winning a contest you never entered or receiving a refund you weren't expecting.

**How to Protect Yourself**

- **Never Click.** If a text seems official, go directly to the company's verified website or app instead of using the link provided.
- **Report and Block.** Use your phone's "Report Junk" feature and block the number immediately.
- **Enable 2FA.** Use Two-Factor Authentication (preferably an authenticator app rather than SMS) so that even if a scammer gets your password, they can't get into your account.

To stay up to date with scams, listen to Scams 360 wherever you get your podcasts.

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Thank you for trusting **BCSI Investigations Inc.** to keep you informed and protected.

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