



## Welcome to the TXDPS Cyber Security Newsletter

### One big thing: Phishing is Very Much Still a Thing

[Click here](#)

**What to know:** We mention phishing often for a reason—people are still clicking on links and opening attachments and sharing login credentials when a well-crafted, malicious email tricks us.

**It remains the most common** way attackers attempt to get into our agency's systems and into your home network and personal accounts. And now, with AI tools writing polished, convincing messages, spotting a fake email is harder than ever.

#### What's new:

- Scammers are using AI to mimic writing styles and even create realistic sender names or logos.
- Messages often look like they're from real coworkers, vendors, or leadership.
- And because AI can generate thousands of unique emails quickly, traditional spam filters can't always catch them.

#### What you can do right now:

1. **Slow down before you click.** Phishing works because it creates a sense of urgency or catches us while distracted. Before clicking a link or opening an attachment, take a breath. Ask yourself: Was I expecting this message?
2. **Double-check the sender.** Hover over the email address or link. Does it really match who it says it's from? If it's even a little off, don't click.
3. **Report suspicious emails right away.** Send suspicious emails to your cyber team.
4. **Practice what you've learned.** We've all taken awareness training on phishing – now it's about using that awareness daily. A quick pause before you click can prevent an incident.

**Bottom line:** Phishing isn't going away – it's just evolving and getting smarter. But so can we. Stay alert, trust your instincts, and report anything suspicious. Every report helps protect all of us.

**Share with family:** <https://www.cisa.gov/sites/default/files/2024-09/Secure-Our-World-Phishing-Tip-Sheet.pdf>

# In the News

## Cyber incidents in Texas, Tennessee and Indiana impacting critical government services

(Jonathan Greig | October 22, 2025)

"A large suburb outside of Dallas was one of multiple municipalities across the U.S. this week to report cyber incidents affecting public services.



Kaufman County, home to nearly 200,000 people, said a cyberattack was discovered on Monday and forced county officials to notify state and federal agencies.

The incident took down several county systems but the Sheriff's Office and emergency services were not impacted. A Texas news outlet reported that computers at the county courthouse were affected by the attack.

'Our priority remains the continuity of essential public services and the protection of County systems and information,' Kaufman County Judge Jakie Allen said in a statement.

County representatives did not respond to requests for comment.

The attack on Kaufman County coincides with a handful of similar incidents across the country.

On Friday, the Tennessee city of La Vergne said on Friday it is investigating a network incident that disrupted computer systems used by government officials. The FBI and state agencies are working with the city to recover from the attack.

City offices have been closed since the cyberattack was discovered."

Full Story: <https://therecord.media/cyber-incidents-texas-tennessee-indiana>

### A Few More Cyber News Stories:

New Phishing Emails Pretend to Offer Jobs to Steal Facebook Logins

<https://hackread.com/phishing-emails-offer-jobs-steal-facebook-logins>

Your photo could be all AI needs to clone your voice

<https://www.helpnetsecurity.com/2025/10/30/face-to-voice-deepfakes-voice-authentication-risk>

Secret Service finds 17 'skimming' devices in tour of San Antonio businesses

<https://www.msn.com/en-us/money/other/secret-service-finds-17-skimming-devices-in-tour-of-san-antonio-businesses>

# Spot the Scam

## This Month's Challenge

For this month's challenge, let's see if you can out-smart a scammer!

As this website mentions, 1 in every 4 Americans are victims of online crime every year, yet 90% of Americans say they're too smart to fall for a scam.

Do you have that level of confidence in your ability to spot a scam?

You'll have your opportunity to ace 8 different scenarios.

<https://www.aura.com/resources/spot-the-scam>

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## Are you **smarter** than a scammer?

1 in every 4 Americans are victims of online crime every year, yet 90% of Americans say they're too smart to fall for a scam. Take the quiz and see if you're as savvy as you think!

Let's go!

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Table	1047	Take Away
Bill No.	301904	COMPLETED
Date		14.05.51
Item Name	Qty	Price(RM)
MATCHA GELATO	1	15.00
SINGLE		
Discount (20.00%)		-3.00
Sub Total		12.00
Rounding		