

MEMBER insight

August 2024

Avoid These Common Election Scams!

With the upcoming elections this year, make sure to educate yourself and remain aware of some common election scams and fraud. Let us give you a headstart by informing you of **four of the most common election scams.**

1. Voter Registration Scams

Be on high alert for potential *phishing* scams which include links to fake voter registration forms. These links can come via email, phone, or text. When victims fall into this scam, their personal information is then stolen and their device may become compromised. **You CANNOT register to vote by phone, email, or text.** In all 50 states, you can only register online, by mail, or in person!



2. Fraudulent Robocalls

Be aware of the spreading of misinformation through fake audio recordings. This is common with phone calls. Scammers pose as a candidate or party and spread misinformation regarding the election. Make sure that you educate yourself through *reliable sources*.

3. Donation Scams

Cybercriminals also use phishing scams and fake audio recordings to solicit or request “donations” to fraudulent campaign committees. This can be done by telling you to push a button on your phone which directs you to a fraudulent representative or through directing you to follow DANGEROUS links. While these scammers often seem credible, they are not. They take advantage of high-pressure scenarios and their victims’ emotions. **Never click any links in an unsolicited email or text message, and avoid answering potentially fraudulent phone calls.**

Visit the Federal Election Commission’s website to verify if a PAC (political action committee) is legitimate.

If you have been targeted by a scam PAC (political action committee) contact your local FBI field office and speak to an election crimes coordinator.

4. Fake Surveys, Petitions, & Polls

Be skeptical when asked to complete a political opinions poll or survey. **Never** disclose your personal information such as your Social Security Number, credit card information, home address, etc. Oftentimes scammers offer a fake incentive for completing the survey. Then, they ask for your personal information to cover taxes or shipping costs of the fraudulent reward. Do NOT share this type of personal and specific information.

Ways to Protect Yourself:

- Register to vote at a government location or by mail. If you must register online, DO NOT use unsolicited links.

More Ways to Protect Yourself from Election Scams:

- Avoid filling out registration forms in public, such as at a voter registration event. Anyone is able to see your personal information here! Take the form home, fill it out, and send it in or bring it to an election office.
- Be suspicious of robocalls and confirm through **reliable** sources whether the information is accurate.
- Never trust a robocall that directs you to donate.
- If you want to donate to a candidate, go *directly* to their **certified site**.
- Do NOT rely on Caller ID!
- Do NOT answer unexpected phone calls from numbers you do not know. *Scammers only need a few seconds to record your voice and use AI to impersonate you to gain access to your financial accounts and personal information.*
- If someone conducting a survey or poll offers an incentive or prize, **DO NOT** participate.
- Again, **NEVER** click on links from unsolicited emails or texts.

For more information check out this article:

<https://www.aarp.org/money/scams-fraud/info-2024/election-season-scams.html>

TACU IN THE COMMUNITY

TACU had a busy month rounding out the summer in the community! Todd Scholz, President/CEO, spent an afternoon at the Monroe County Fair and purchased the Reserve Champion Market Hog from Kyla J. during the Monroe County Jr. Livestock sale.



5-Spot has been out and about serving our community as well! He spent an evening dancing and making friends at Tomah's Downtown Thursday Nights, while also raising money for The Caring Closet! Over the course of the summer, TACU has been raising money at Downtown Thursday Nights for The Caring Closet, Inc. We have enjoyed selling root beer floats and ice cream sundaes, while enjoying live music. All for a great cause!



TACU has also been busy attending local open houses for the elementary level to promote the 5-Spot Savers Club for the upcoming school year.

SCHOOL IS ALMOST HERE! OPEN A 5-SPOT ACCOUNT TODAY!

Sign up a child for a 5-Spot Savings Account and give them a chance to **WIN \$100 FOR THEIR CLASSROOM!**

Contact TACU Credit Union at 608.372.4736.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Closed Labor Day - September 2nd

ANNIVERSARIES

Krista Bethhauser, Loan Officer - 16 years

TACU CREDIT UNION

PO Box 940
940 North Superior Ave
Tomah, WI 54660
Phone: 608.372.4736
Fax: 608.372.4394
www.tacuonline.com

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

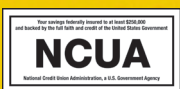
Chairman — Paul Wiese
Vice-Chairman — John Froelich
Treasurer — Linda Johnson
Secretary — Martha Klatt
Director — Al Laylan
Director — Joseph Bubnich
Director — Jeff Cram

OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Friday
9:00 am to 5:00 pm
Saturday
9:00 am to 12:00 pm

DRIVE-UP HOURS

Monday - Thursday
7:30 am to 5:30 pm
Friday
7:30 am to 6:00 pm
Saturday
8:30 am to 12:30 pm



Federally insured by NCUA up to \$250,000
Equal Housing Opportunity

