



OHIO DEFERRED COMPENSATION

OHIO PUBLIC EMPLOYEES DEFERRED COMPENSATION PROGRAM

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Go Fishing, Not Phishing

The number of people using technology is increasing, and unfortunately, so is the number of criminals devoting time and effort to gain access to your financial information. Stay educated to protect yourself online.

What is phishing?

Phishing is an attempt by a criminal to obtain sensitive information by pretending to be a legitimate company you use or know. You'll receive a message from a business you use. The message is crafted with a sense of urgency hoping you will click on the link and enter your personal information. Over the phone, phishing happens when someone pretends to be a representative from a legitimate company you know and pressures you to reveal personal information.

What is email spoofing?

Email spoofing, similar to phishing, happens when you receive an email that looks like it came from a relative or friend with a link to click. In reality, the message did not come from someone you trust, and the link will harm your computer or ask you to reveal personal information. Ohio DC will never send you an email asking you to provide personal or confidential information. If you have concerns about anything you receive from Ohio DC, please call us to verify its authenticity.

How can I protect myself?

- Avoid clicking on links embedded in an email unless you are sure of the email's source.
- Always type a business's website address directly into the address bar rather than clicking on a link.
- Make sure your computer security software is up to date. If you are uncomfortable with maintaining or installing it, there are companies you can visit in person that do this.
- If you receive a suspicious phone call regarding a company you do business with, hang up and call them using a valid phone number for them to put your mind at ease. If necessary, contact authorities.

For some of you, fishing is a fun activity to enjoy. Make sure this is the only kind of fishing you get involved with!