

NEWS FROM SCDCA

SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS Carri Grube Lybarker, Administrator



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Tips for Hacked eBay Users

Columbia, SC... The South Carolina Department of Consumer Affairs (SCDCA) is encouraging eBay users to take steps to secure their online accounts in the wake of a cyber-attack that compromised passwords, names, addresses, etc.

Fraudsters can use the stolen information in a variety of ways. Follow these tips to

protect accounts that could be affected:

- Change your password immediately. Use strong, creative passwords (uppercase, lowercase and special characters) and don't share them with anyone.
- Don't use the same passwords for multiple accounts, especially when using your e-mail address as the login name on that site. If you do use the same passwords on other accounts, change those as well.
- Closely monitor monthly statements and activity for financial accounts saved as payment options on internet merchant sites. Don't forget online stores and websites used to pay household expenses.
- Watch out for phishing attempts. Asking for personal or sensitive information via a phone call, text or e-mail is a tactic used by scammers. Never reply to texts, pop-ups, or e-mails that ask for verification of personal information.

For information on identity theft or to report a possible scam, please contact SCDCA's Identity Theft Unit by calling 1-800-922-1594 or visiting <u>www.consumer.sc.gov</u>.

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SCDCA aims to protect consumers from inequities in the marketplace through advocacy, complaint mediation, enforcement and education. To file a complaint or get information on consumer issues, visit *www.consumer.sc.gov* or call toll-free, 1.800.922.1594.

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