

Security with Apple Products

It is a scary world out there!

First and Best Line of Defense **Is You!**

- We are bombarded by attacks from all over
- Scam Emails, Texts, Phone Calls
- Bogus Websites
- The Bad Actors are getting smarter

 **When in Doubt — Don't!!**

What **Not** To Do

- Never act in haste or from fear
 - Bad Actors will target your fear to get you to make mistakes
- Never Call a Phone Number on an Email or Text
- Never Click on a link in an Email or Text
- Don't click "[Unsubscribe](#)" unless you are certain it is a real company

What To Do

- If you get a message about your Bank Account ...
 - Find your bank card and call the number there
- If you get a message from any vendor ...
 - If you have paper receipts get contact info there
 - If you have an online account, log in to check it
 - If you don't, search for the website to get contact info
 - Make certain it is the real website, not always easy
- Turn on 2-Factor Authentication
- Use Passkey (instead of password) when ever offered by websites

WebSite Skulduggery

It is the Wild West Out There

- Skuldiggery - “Underhanded or unscrupulous behavior”
- Anyone can buy any website address that is available
 - whitehouse.gov will take you to the Official website
 - whitehouse.com will take you to an online betting website
 - It used to be a Porn site
- Bad Actors Anticipate Common Spelling Errors or Typo mistakes to fool you and buy similar sounding websites
- Most review websites are owned by vendors and not reliable

More Skulduggery

Spoofing

- Bad Actors can spoof, or alter everything
- Caller ID can be hacked to show a wrong number
- Websites can be changed to hide the real address
- Email Addresses can be changed to look legitimate
- Open a known spam message and gently touch and release the address
 - It will show you the real data hidden underneath

Common Scams

Phishing

- You receive an email or text claiming to be from a company
- Often, there are mistakes that are obvious, such as
 - Bad Spelling, Bad Grammar, Etc
- They are getting better though so Beware!
- If it seems too good to be true, it usually is
- Their goal is to fish for your information - Don't take the bait!

Nigerian Prince

Old Scam has Changed

- We all know not to fall for the Nigerian Prince scams but it has changed
- You may get an email or text that appears like a wrong number
 - As tempting as it may be to respond, don't
 - They try to get you talking, then keep working you
 - Until they ask for something
 - It may seem innocent but it is not
 - They prey on lonely people
 - My wife said, “But some of us just want to be helpful! “ Be very careful

QR code Scams

- We have all scanned QR codes
- The Apple Club has a code
- Bad Actors are using bogus codes to scam you
- No one can look at a code and know what it is
- You must always be aware and vigilant
- If anything seems to off, Run Away

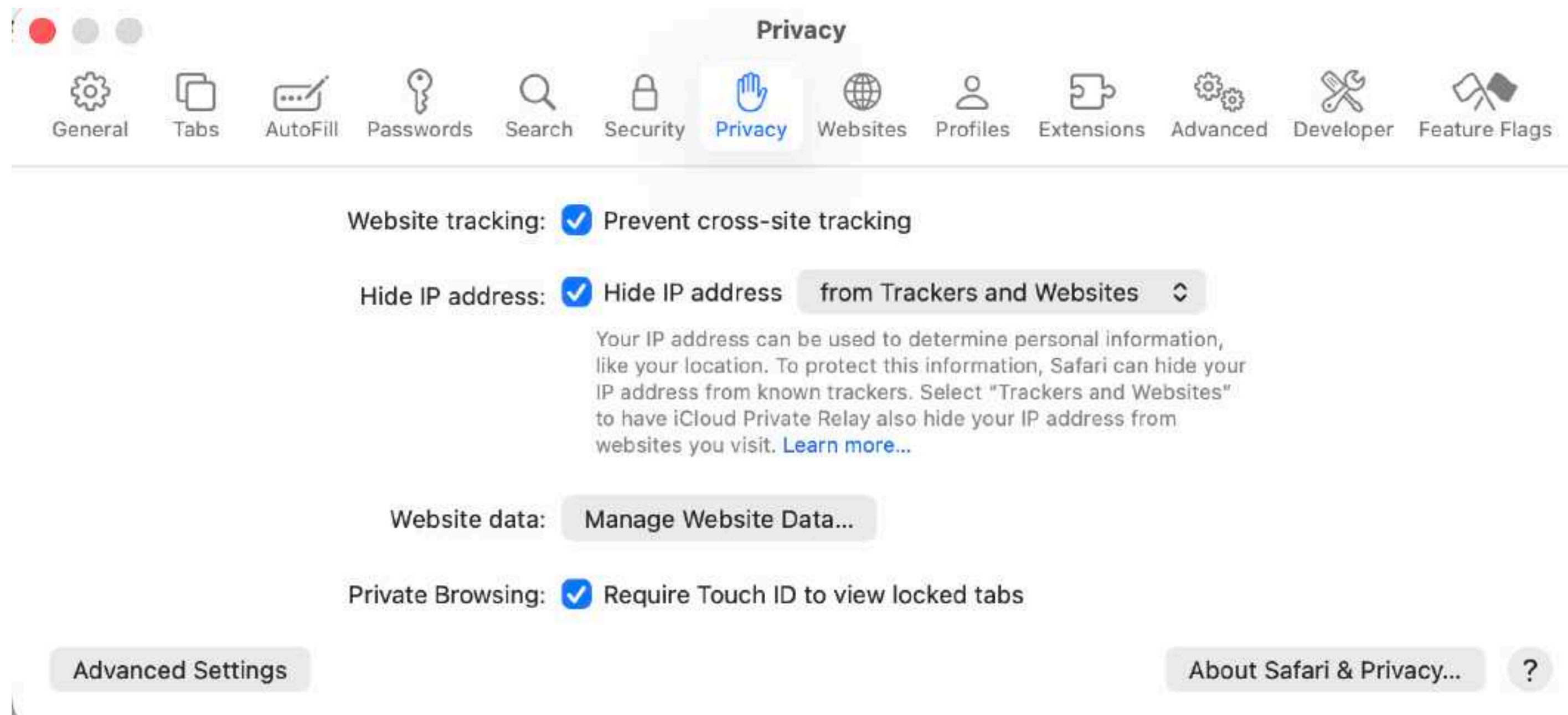
Toll Scam

- Many of us have received Texts claiming we have an unpaid toll
- AZ does not have any toll roads but many states do
- I had traveled across the country and used many toll roads
- Had I missed one and left it unpaid?
 - I had to check state websites to make sure
- This may have been one of the most effective scams

What Tools Does Apple Provide

Safari Anti Tracking

- Safari has built in technology to prevent tracking us
- In Safari (on Mac) go to Settings/Privacy & Security



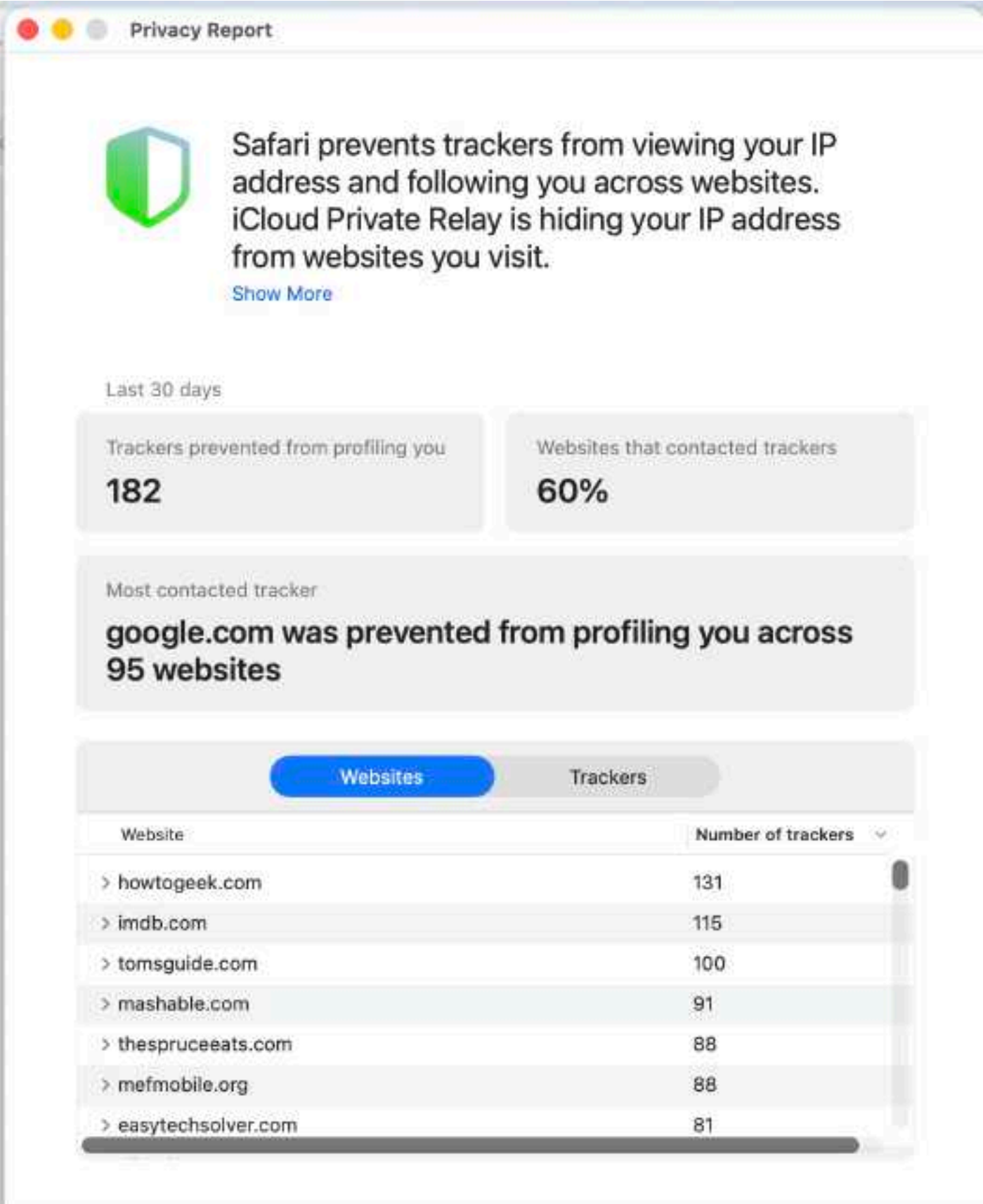
Apple Tools

Safari on iPhone, iPad

- Open Settings/Apps/Safari/Privacy & Security
- Recommend turning all on (except Face ID for private browsing)
- Prevent Cross Site Tracking
- Fraudulent Website Warning
- Not Secure Website Warning
- Highlights (Not really privacy but good)

Safari Privacy Report

Safari/Settings/Privacy Report



Sensitive Personal Data

How are you Identified

- Date of Birth
- SS Number
- Physical Address
- Phone Number
- Email Address

Protect Your Sensitive Data

- Companies Always ask for Personal Information
- In some cases you must provide this but many times you do not
- Data Brokers are creative in gaining our data
- When not legally needed you can provide fake info
 - Date of Birth is one of my pet peeves here
- It amazes me how many still ask for your SS Number
 - Required by Finance Issues, Banks, IRS, Employment

Protect your Email Address

Hide My Email

- Email has become more important as an Identifier
- The more exposure your address gets the more it is targeted by spammers
- I have an old gmail account that gets 300 spams a day
- Hide my email helps secure your main address
- When signing up in Safari to a new site, choose “Hide My Email”
- Apple creates a unique email address for that site and only that site

Limit Companies Ability to Track You

Settings/Your Name/iCloud/Private Relay

- You search online for “Three Legged Pigs”
- The next day your in box is full of ways to buy three legged pigs
- Tracking is how they can do this
- There are many companies who track everything you do online
- VPNs can help but the good ones are limited and cost money
- Private Relay is built in to Safari and Free

Private Relay or VPN

Which is best for you

- VPN is more advanced and controllable
 - You can tell it you are in London and then British Netflix works
- Private relay has two settings
 - Maintain General Location
 - Maintain Country and Time Zone
- I gave up VPN because many sites won't work with them
- I have never been blocked with Private Relay

Gift Card Scam

Never Send Gift Cards

- Someone requesting a gift card is a HUGE red flag
- My daughter applied for a job on Indeed.com, a reputable site
- She was immediately suspicious and worked with me to be safe
- They sent her a check for \$5000 and asked her to pay vendors with gift cards
- The check came, was deposited but something was just not right
- We learned from the bank that they can, and did, issue a stop payment to pull the money back long after it was deposited

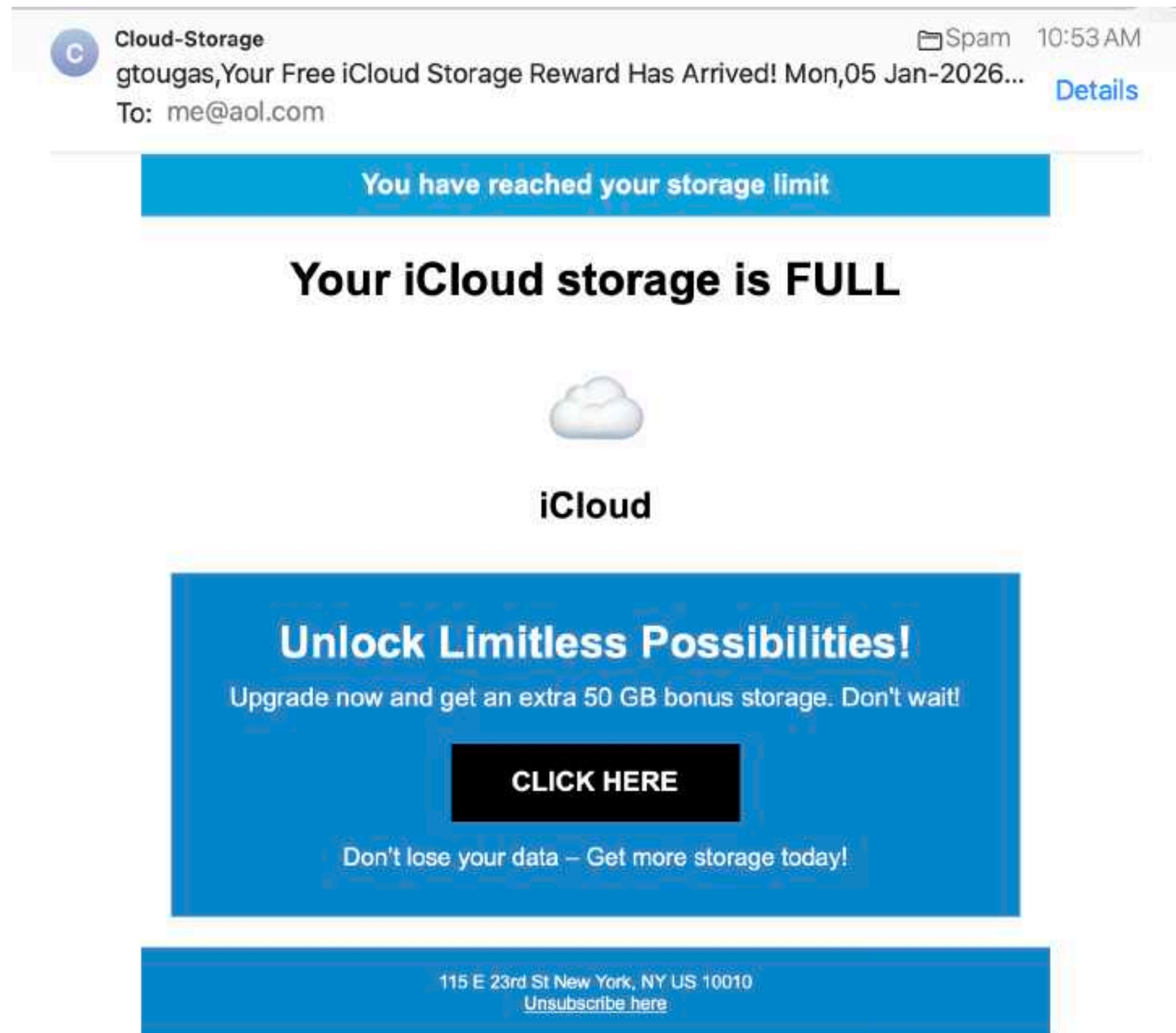
Phony Receipt Scam

Your Order has Been Processed

- You get an email or text confirming your order
- But you never placed an order!
- They provide ways to reach them, hoping you will
- They will then ask you to confirm your payment info
 - Which they don't yet have because you did not order
- Best to just hit the delete button and walk away

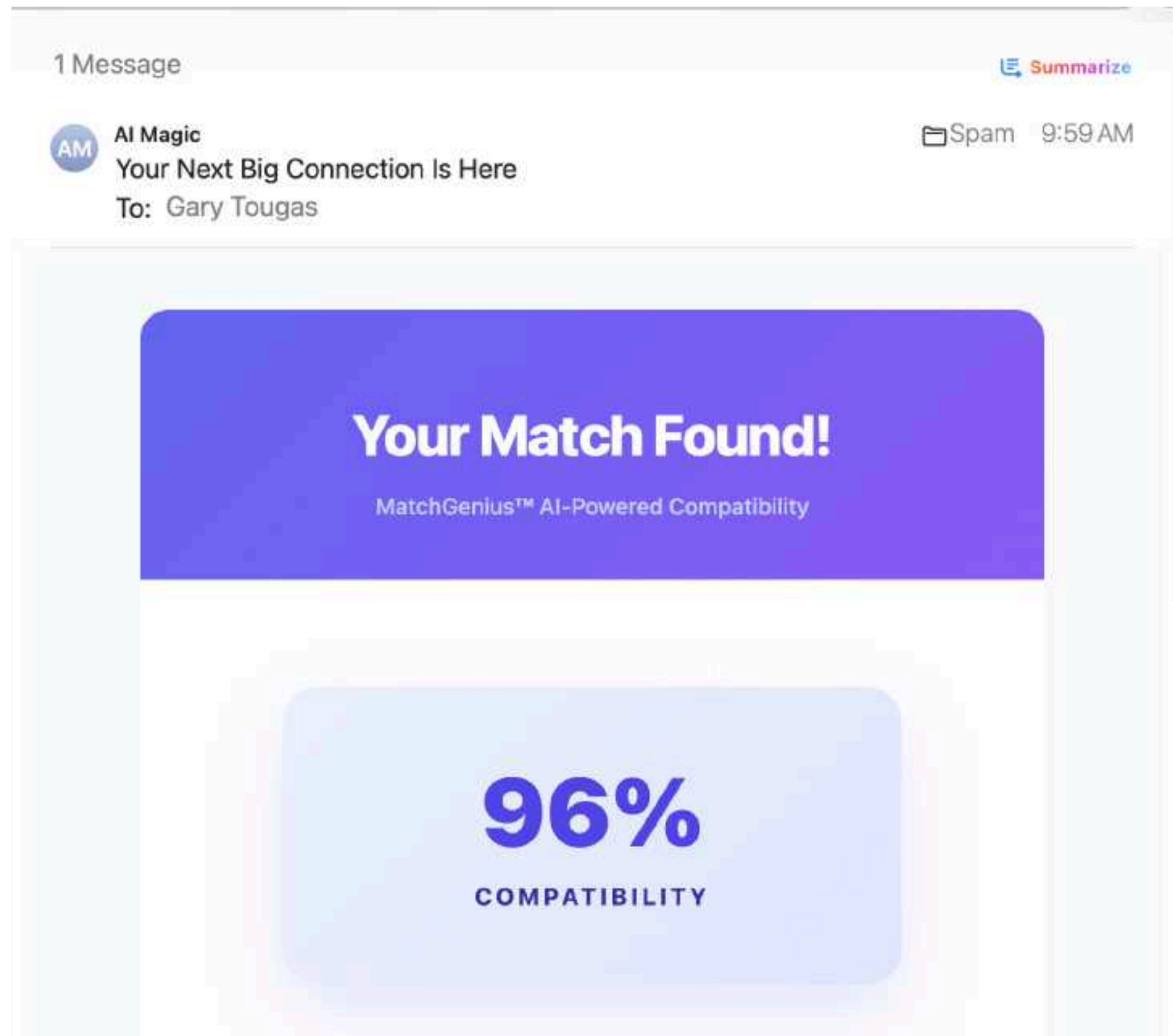
Sample Scam Email

What are the Clues?



Lonely Hearts Scam

Curiosity Killed the Cat, Don't Click!



Free Money

I don't think so, don't click!

CG

Congrats gtougas!

You received a payment of \$1,000.00 USD_____790

To: Gary Tougas,

Reply-To: reply@mw0zs.yevnc49.uic.edu

Spam 9:54 AM

CASINO
EXTREME

Please Verify Your Extreme Account

Dear gtougas,

Welcome aboard! Your registration with a Casino Extreme affiliate site is complete. Please confirm your email to secure your profile and gain full access to your exclusive perks.

Confirm Your Info

If the link above does not appear, enter your verification code: **EXTREME1** here:
[Casino Extreme](#)

Valid Until Mon, 05 Jan-2026

ENTRY NON-TRANSFERABLE

Issued to:
[gtougas@gmail.com](#)
Member ID #94498235

Funds Available

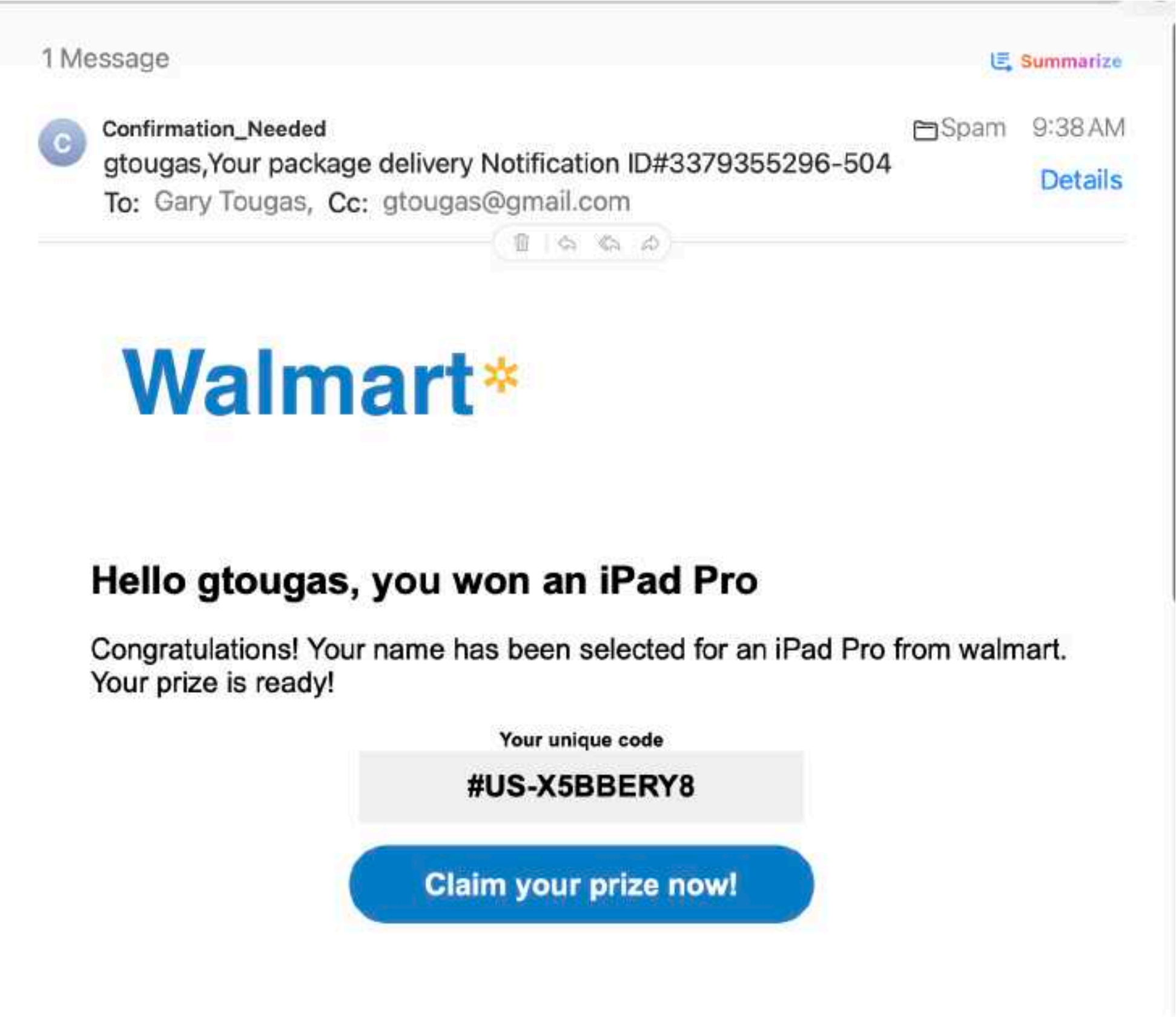
\$1,000.00

Verify here

Please store your account details in a secure place. In case your password is lost, you may use this email address to:

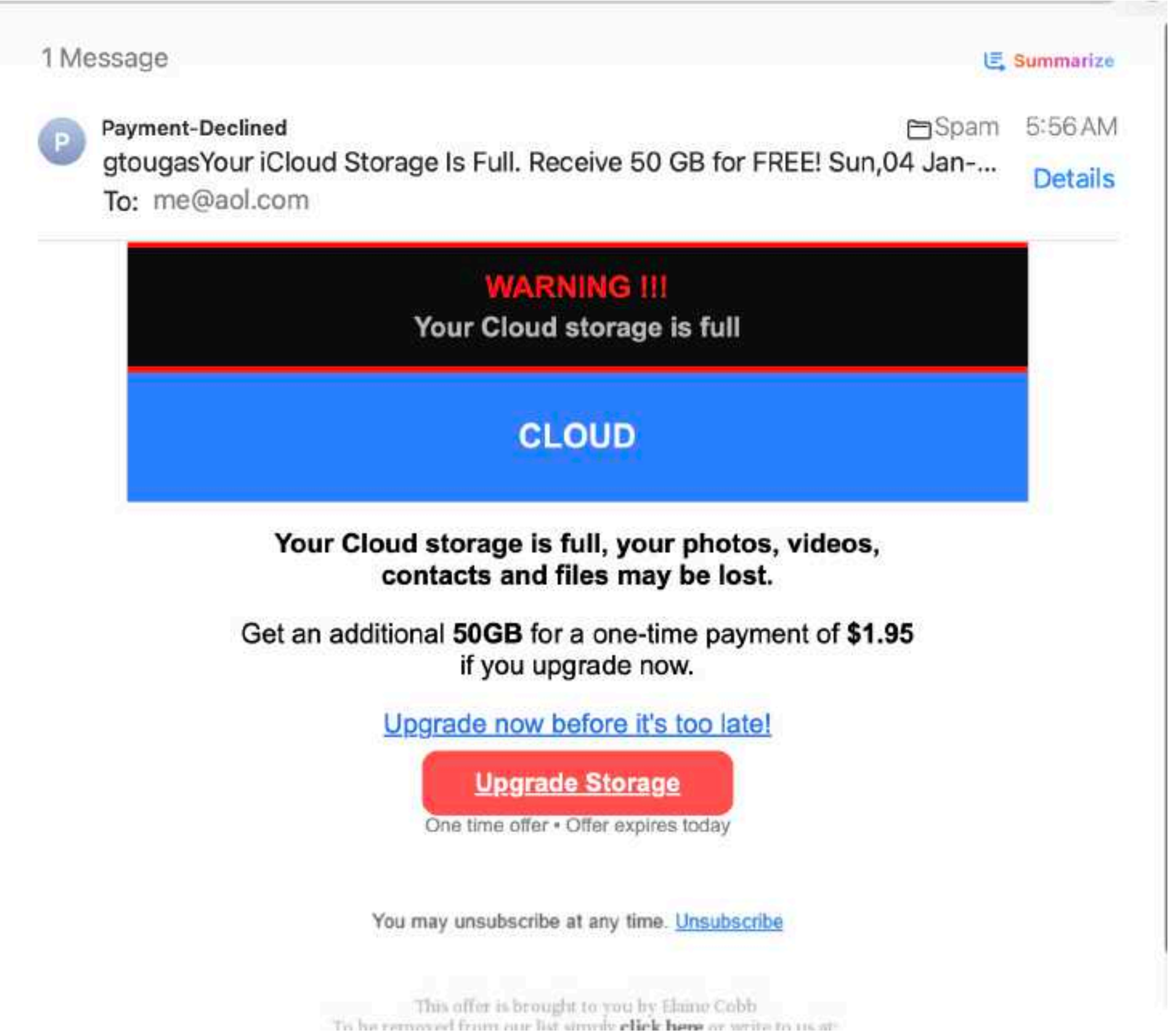
Free Anything

Don't Fall For It, Don't Click



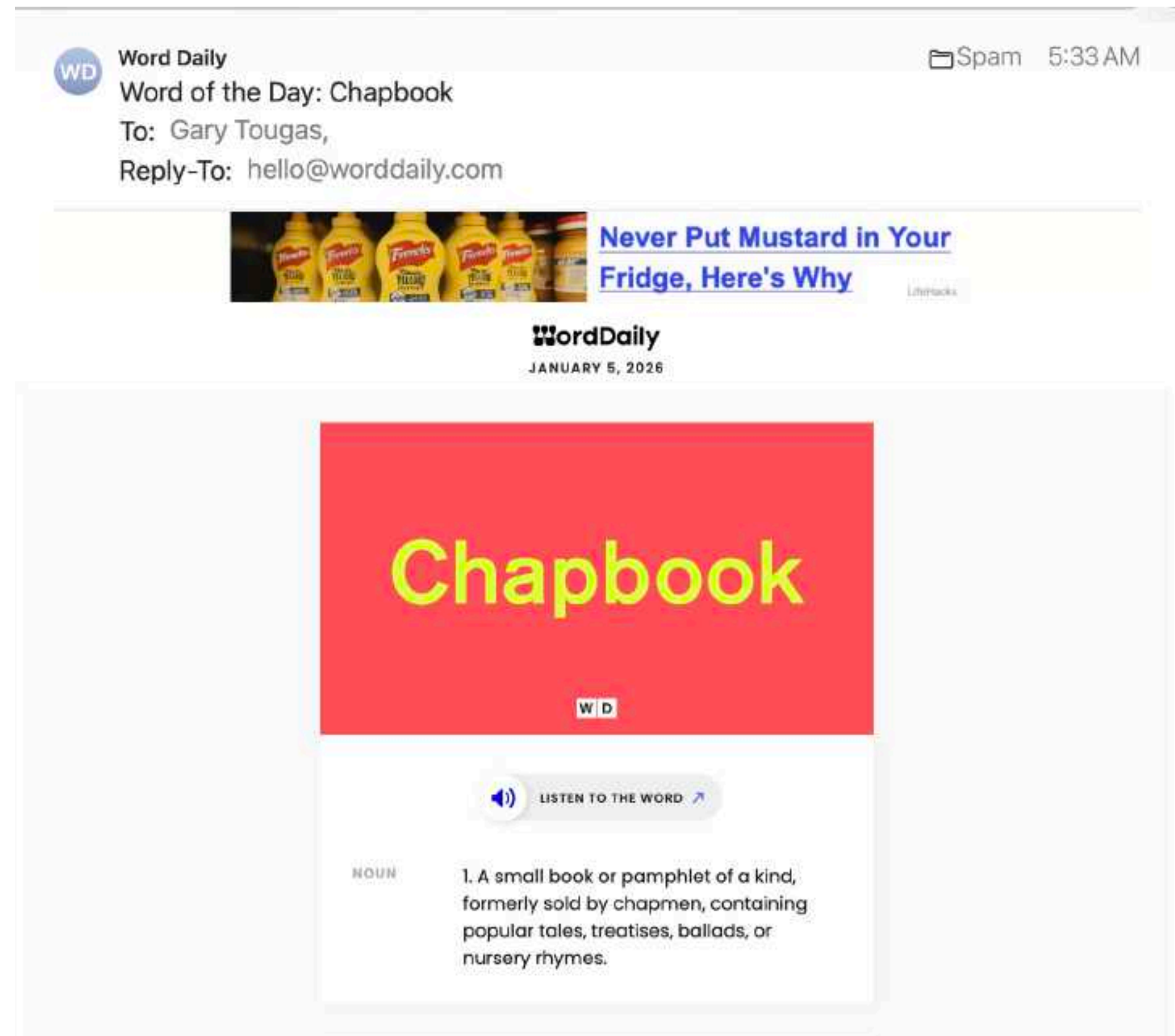
Payment Declined Scam

Don't Fall For it and Give them your account info



Soft Scam Sites

Not Truly Scams but Not Really Legit Either



Surveys

Legit or Not

- You Buy something and they ask you fill out a survey
- You visit a website and they ask you fill out a survey
- Most surveys are done by third party companies
- Maybe the original company gets some feedback but who else gets the info?
- I never complete surveys. Don't feed the data broker trolls
- It is up to you if you want to

Text

- What is wrong here?



Apple Pay Security Alert

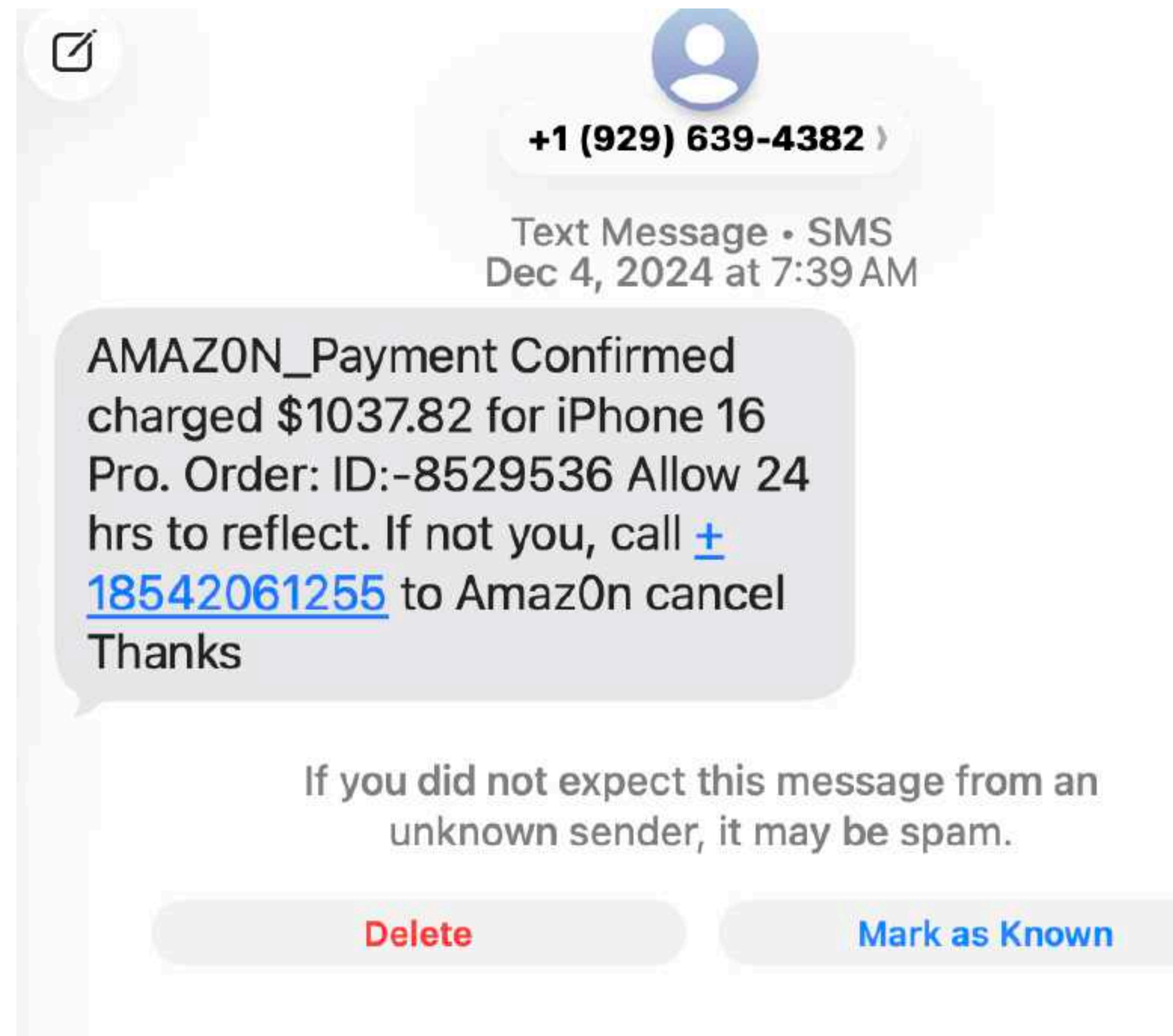
What is wrong here?



Text Message

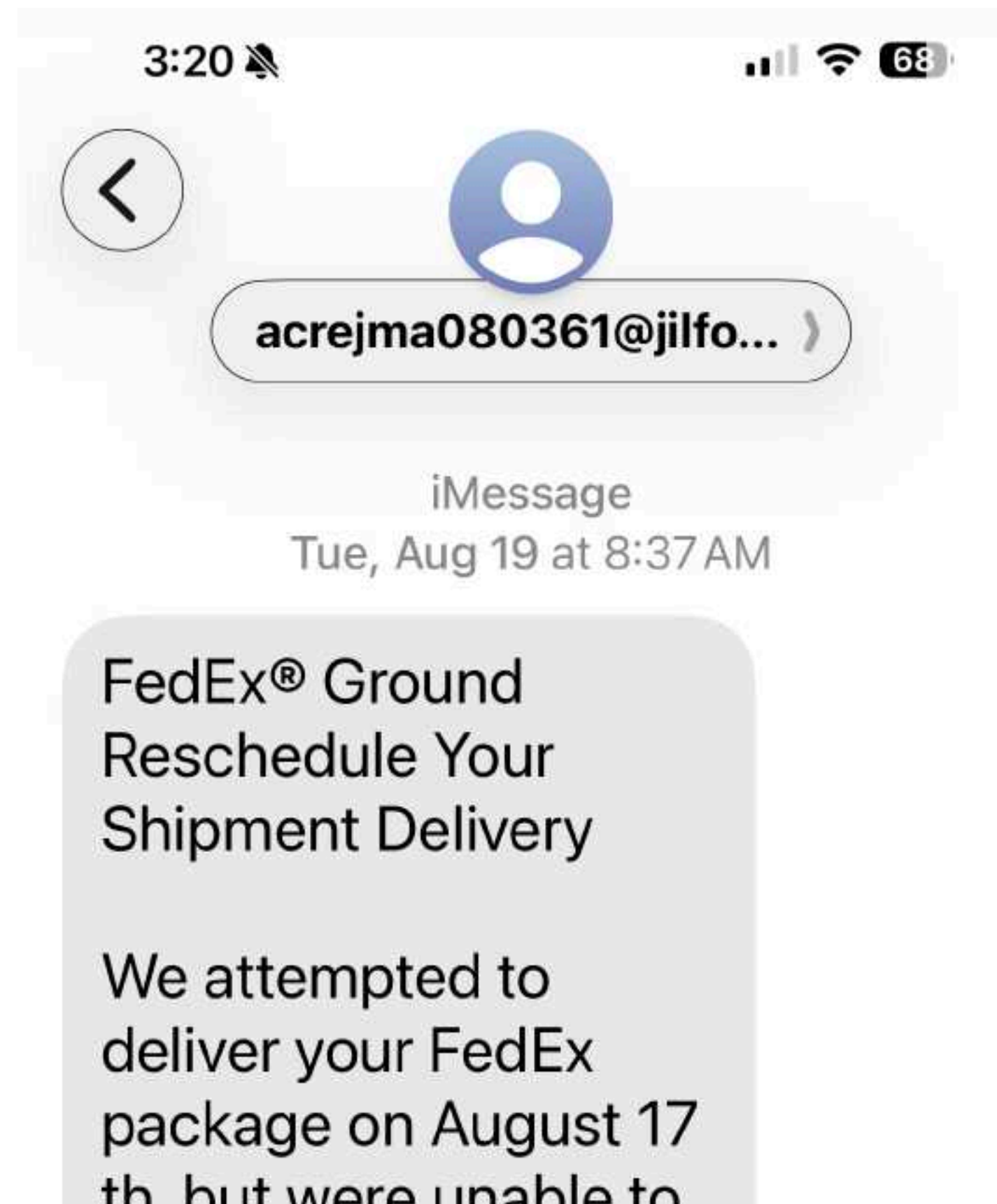
What is wrong?

-



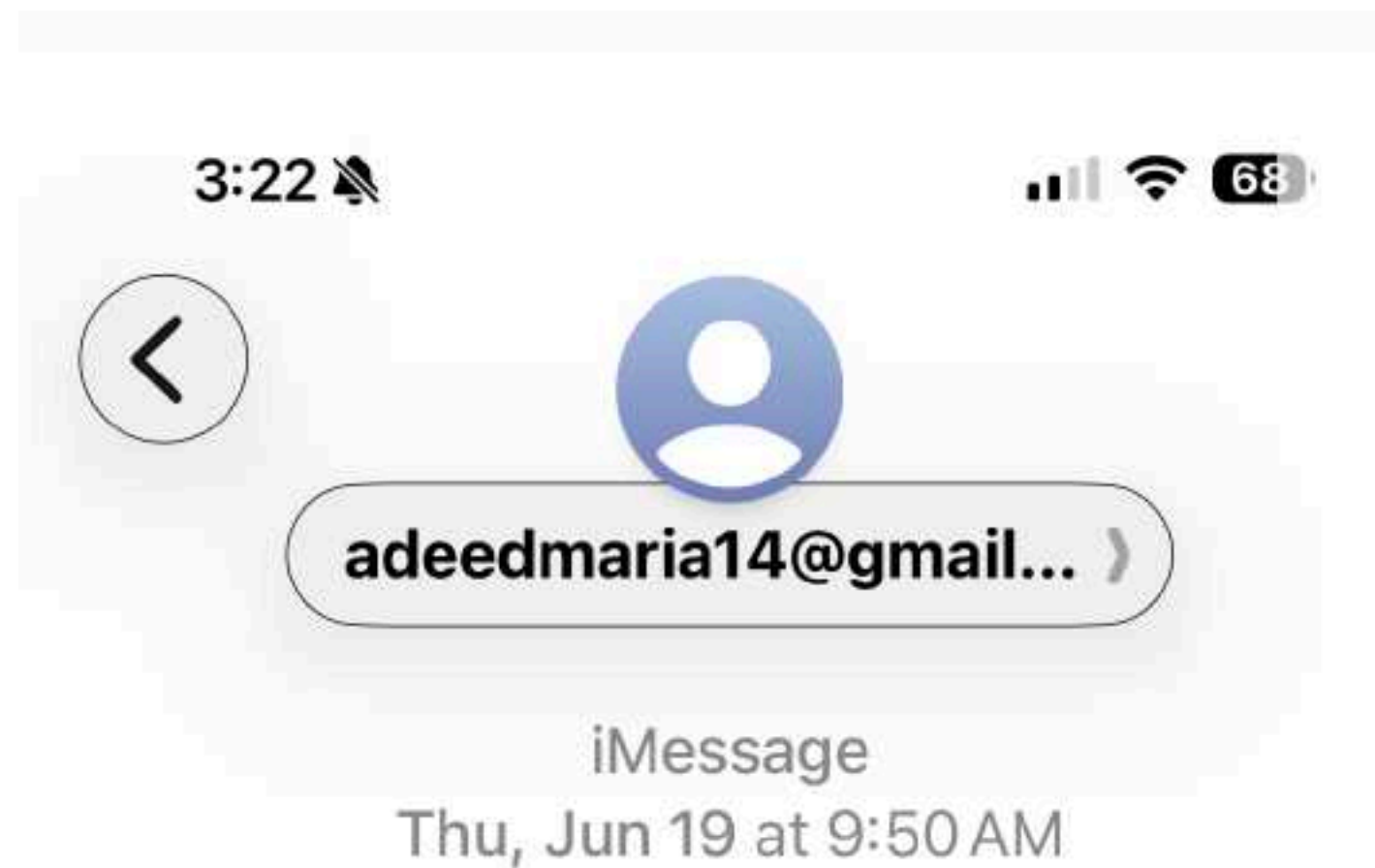
Text

What is wrong with this



Text Message

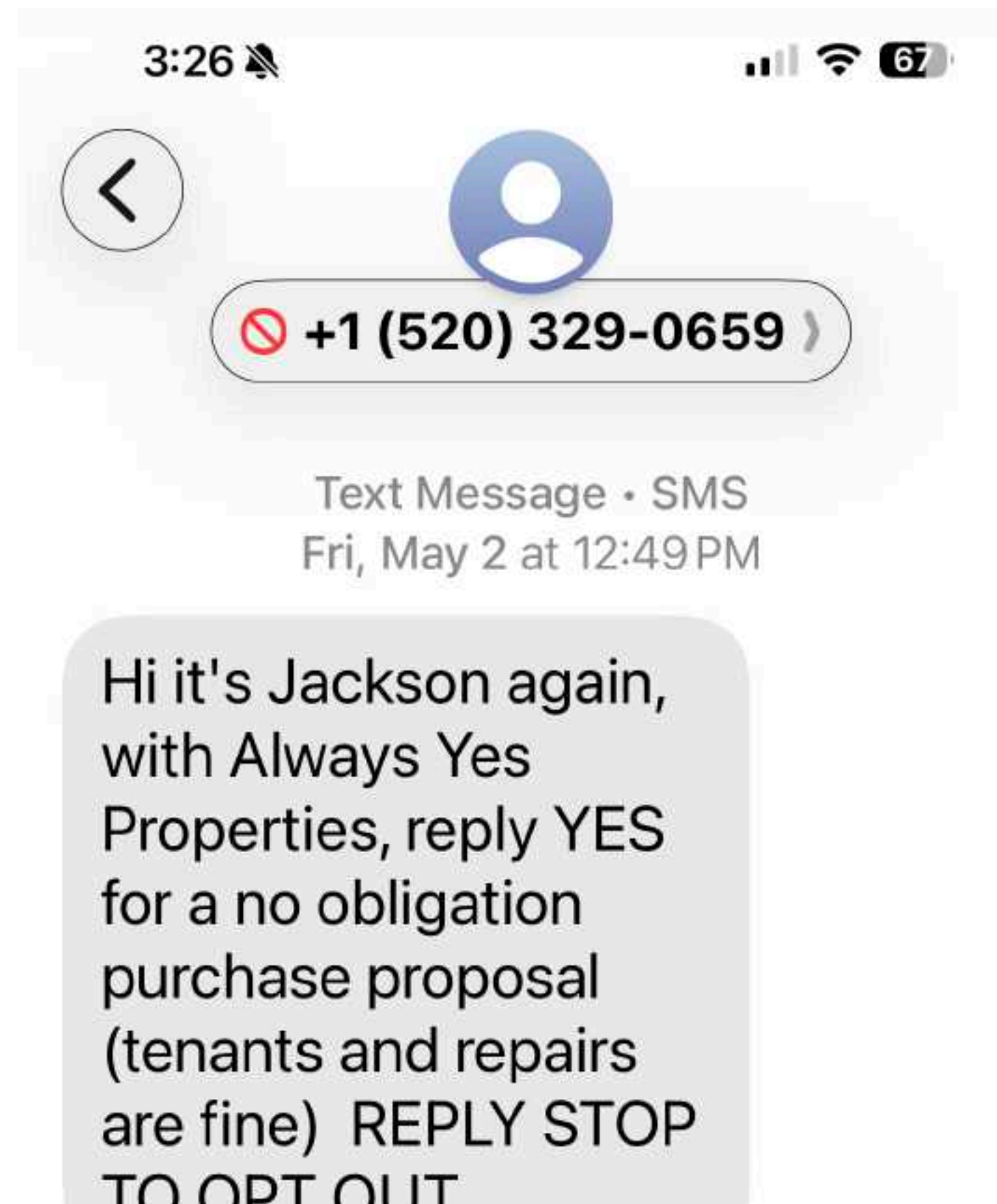
Spot the Clues



Arizona Department of
Motor Vehicles
(ADMV) Final Notice:
Enforcement Begins
June 21.
Our records show that
as of today, you still

Text Message

Clues on what this is?



Other Common Scams

- Your computer has been hacked
 - Call, pay us money and we will fix it
 - They ask you to “allow” them to access your computer
 - Don’t do it! Once they gain access they can do damage

Staying Safe Online Depends On You

You must remain vigilant and aware

- The only guaranteed way to stay safe is to not go on line
- We rely on the internet more than ever and don't want to be taken
- Never forget bad actors are trying to get your money and info
- Question everything
- Trust nothing on blind faith
- Be careful and **When In Doubt - Don't**