

VETERAN IDENTITY THEFT AND ONLINE DATING SCAMS AUDIENCE: MIL / CIV / CSS

There has been an increased prevalence of online dating scams perpetrated by various teams of criminals who establish fake profiles using real images of military personnel. The criminals posing as a military member state they are overseas or slated to deploy and subsequently run into a host of challenges from not having access to communications channels, financial accounts, or a way home. Each time the “veteran” is supposed to be on his or her way home, something happens to deter arrival. Once the criminals believe they have squeezed as much money out of the victims as they can, they break contact and their online presence disappears.

More information on how to protect yourself from becoming a victim and what to do if you become a victim can be found at the following link:

<https://myteam.navair.navy.mil/Command%20Announcements/Veteran%20Identity%20Theft%20and%20Online%20Dating%20Scams-edits.pdf>

For additional information, phone (301) 757-3693.