



**BE SMART!**

# **ONLINE DATING SCAMS**

**What to know about them and how to avoid them**

## **WHAT IS IT?**

You receive a message from someone wanting to establish a relationship that may evolve into a romance.

### **🚩 SEE THE RED FLAG!**

They ask you to send money so they can travel to see you, or they desperately need money for an emergency. They may ask you to receive money from others on their behalf, and forward it according to their instructions.

## **WHAT TO KNOW**

- Scammers use fake dating profiles and stolen identities.
- Scammers often say they are active or retired military officials who do not have access to their accounts.

## **BE SMART!**

- **DO NOT send or pass on any money!**
- STOP the conversation.
- DO NOT provide your personal or financial information.

## **WHERE TO GET HELP**

- Tell a friend or family member.
- File a report at [uspis.gov](https://uspis.gov) or call 1-877-876-2455. Our investigation starts with your report. If you have been targeted or fallen victim to a scam, take action to help yourself and safeguard others.



**UNITED STATES POSTAL  
INSPECTION SERVICE**

***uspis.gov***  
**1-877-876-2455**