

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Contact: James Hallinan

July 20, 2014

(505) 660-2216

SCAM ALERT: Phishing Scam Targeting New Mexico Businesses; Scammers Claim to be with the Office of the Attorney General

Albuquerque, NM – Today, Attorney General Hector Balderas issued a Scam Alert to warn New Mexico businesses and the public about a new phishing scheme. The scammers are sending emails to businesses claiming to be with the Office of the Attorney General and claiming that there has been a complaint filed against the business. The business owners are then asked to click a link to see the “complaint” and that they have ten days to respond. The Office of Attorney General will not, and does not, send emails like the ones being used in this scam which hit New Mexico this week.

“We are reminding New Mexicans to be vigilant to protect themselves from identity theft and financial loss from scammers,” Attorney General Hector Balderas said. “Invoking the Office of the Attorney General in their schemes to defraud New Mexicans demonstrates the lengths scammers will go to and is a reminder for all of us to be alert when it comes to protecting our families from thieves who hide in the dark corners of the Internet.”

Never click on unsolicited links and always call to check with the agency to ensure you are receiving a proper communication. Government and law enforcement agencies do not send emails of this nature but rather will send you a letter in the mail if you need to respond to the agency regarding a matter.

Please see attached for an example of the emails being sent to New Mexico businesses from the scammers.

If you receive one of these emails, please submit a Consumer Complaint with the New Mexico Office of the Attorney General.

- a. To obtain an electronic copy of the Consumer Complaint, visit our website:
<http://www.nmag.gov/uploads/files/ComplaintForms/ConsumerComplaintForm.pdf>.
- b. Call the Office of the Attorney General at [1-866-627-3249](tel:1-866-627-3249). Se habla español.
- c. To obtain a Consumer Complaint in person or by mail, contact our office closest to you:

*Albuquerque Office of the Attorney General
111 Lomas Blvd. NW
Suite 120
Albuquerque, NM 87102
(505) 222-9100*

Santa Fe Office of the Attorney General

*408 Galisteo Street
Santa Fe: NM 87501
505-827-6000*

Las Cruces Office of the Attorney General

*201 N. Church Street
Suite 315
Las Cruces, NM 88001
(575) 526-2280*

###

**Example of scam . This is not from the New Mexico Attorney
General's Office.**

From: The Office Of the Attorney General [mailto:compl.depart@outlook.com]

Sent: Monday, July 18, 2016 3:57 PM

To: Bar Member

Subject: The Office of The Attorney General Complaint

Dear Business Owner:

A complaint has been filed against your Business.

Enclosed is a copy of the complaint which requires your response. You have 10 days to file a rebuttal if you so desire.

You may view the complaint at the link below.

[complaint67163.pdf](#)

Do not click on the link if you receive this email

Rebuttals should not exceed 25 pages and may refer to any additional documents or exhibits that are available on request.

The Office of The Attorney General cannot render legal advice nor can The Office of The Attorney General represent individuals or intervene on their behalf in any civil or criminal matter.

Please review the enclosed complaint. If filing a rebuttal please do so during the specified time frame.

Sincerely,

The Office of The Attorney General

This document and any files transmitted with it are confidential and intended solely for the use of the individual or entity to whom they are addressed. If you have received this email in error, please notify the system manager. This message contains confidential information and is intended only for the individual named. If you are not the named addressee, you should not disseminate, distribute or copy this email.