

NORTH TOWNS

F E D E R A L C R E D I T U N I O N

NEWS & INFORMATION FROM NORTH TOWNS FEDERAL CREDIT UNION

Fall 2024

NATIONWIDE FRAUD LOSSES TOP \$10 BILLION



FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION

A Scammy Snapshot of 2023

(based on reports to Consumer Sentinel)
ftc.gov/data
ReportFraud.ftc.gov

Consumers reported losing more than \$10 billion in fraud in 2023, marking the first time that fraud losses have reached that benchmark, reported by the Federal Trade Commission. This marks a 14% increase over reported losses in 2022.

Below we are going to bullet safer ways to conduct your financial business and not become a statistic. The following are some of the most common current scams: Fake Prize Scam, Fake Check Scam, Tech Support Scams, Romance Scams, Government/Business Impersonator Scams, Grandchild Scams. Some of the details surrounding these types of scams:

- A perpetrator claims the victim has won a nonexistent prize and must send funds to cover the taxes, shipping or handling. They may ask for a credit card or checking account number.
- Someone the member doesn't know sends a check and asks for money or gift cards to be sent back. This happens frequently in conjunction with selling items on Craigslist and Facebook Marketplace.
- A message pops up on your computer or device indicating your account has been locked and you must call a support number for assistance.
- Someone claiming to be the IRS indicates that your Social Security Number has been compromised and you need to verify.

If you have any questions about whether something is a scam or not, please ask us prior to engaging in whatever is being asked. Unfortunately, we have had a couple members scammed out of nearly \$20,000 in the last month. We are here to help safeguard your money.

As always, stay diligent in monitoring all your deposit and credit accounts for accuracy and alert us to any unauthorized activity as soon as possible.



2.6 million fraud reports



\$10 billion reported lost

The number of reports and the amount lost is up.

(2022: 2.5 million fraud reports, \$9 billion lost)

Top Frauds



1
Imposters



2
Online shopping and negative reviews



3
Prizes, sweepstakes, lotteries



4
Investments



5
Business and job opportunities

Charts Source: Federal Trade Commission (FTC). The FTC website, <https://consumer.ftc.gov/scams>, lists more scams and reporting options.

EARN POINTS THIS HOLIDAY SEASON WITH SCORECARD REWARDS!

North Towns VISA® cardholders can enroll in our ScoreCard Rewards program and earn bonus points by using your North Towns FCU VISA card. One dollar in net retail purchases equals one point. Redeem points for merchandise, cash back or travel benefits.

Cashing in your ScoreCard Rewards is simple! Visit www.ScoreCardRewards.com to create your profile. Once your profile is created, you can view your reward balance, search and view all available redemption options, and redeem your points for all different types of rewards!

Don't have a North Towns VISA credit card? Don't worry! After you apply and if approved, your card arrives within 7-10 days after it is ordered. It will be here in time for all your holiday shopping needs.

Use your VISA card for your holiday or everyday purchases and watch your points add up! It pays to shop this holiday season!



Visit www.ScoreCardRewards.com to review all your reward options!

ONE WORLD THROUGH COOPERATIVE FINANCE

Celebrate “One World Through Cooperative Finance” on International Credit Union (ICU) Day® 2024 on Thursday, October 17, 2024.

Why do hundreds of millions of people worldwide choose credit unions? Because credit unions have a “people-first” philosophy that impels them to constantly improve their communities and the lives of their members. That local service feeds a worldwide network that reaches more than 403 million members across the globe. On ICU Day, join credit union and financial cooperative members around the globe in celebrating 76 years of International Credit Union Day. Stop in our office and celebrate with our staff and your fellow member owners!



Join us for snacks and beverages. Enter to win our CU Day Gift Basket.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Be sure to follow our Facebook page at facebook.com/NorthTownsFCU or visit our website at www.northtownsfcu.com for the latest information and upcoming events.

International Credit Union Day

October 17, 2024

Clarence Schools Enrichment Foundation (CSEF) Community Carnival

October 19, 2024 | 9:00 - 11:30 am | Outside Clarence High School Gym | Rain or Shine Event

Akron Chamber of Commerce News Year's Eve Celebration

December 31, 2024



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Rates subject to change without notice.
All loans subject to credit approval.