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Sheriff Mike Brown Warns Online Shoppers of the Following UPS Scam

If you're in a hurry to get online holiday shopping done and shipped, you may see what appears to be an email from UPS saying "package not delivered", and follow the prompt to click on a link to get the issue resolved. Don't just follow blindly. Chances are the email is a fake, intended to infect your computer with a virus.

The scam is "designed to prey on online shoppers who are worried about the timely delivery of their purchases," wrote Angela Knox of Cloudmark Email Security. "The emails look and feel like they are coming from legitimate shipping outlets such as UPS but in fact, the emails either have virus infected zip files attached to them or they direct recipients to infected sites through the clickable links embedded in the HTML content."

If the message reads in a mish-mashed way like; "We are not able to delivery the post package", this should be an immediate clue that it is a trap and you should forward it to the UPS Fraud department: fraud@ups.com immediately. Do not open the attachments and delete it as soon as you have forwarded the email.

"Protect yourselves, your computers and your employer's computers but studying the subject line of your emails before opening them", warns Sheriff Brown. "If it looks fishy, it probably is, don't fall into the trap of a nasty virus."

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