

## **Utah State Tax Commission**

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## **Utah Division of Motor Vehicles and Other State Agencies Warn Utahns about New Phishing Scam**

SALT LAKE CITY (January 10, 2022) — Utah Division of Motor Vehicles (DMV), Utah Department of Public Safety (DPS), Utah Department of Health (UDOH), and the Weber-Morgan Health Department, are warning the public about a new phishing scam targeting Utahns.

Scammers sent a fake text message, from what claims to be the "UTAH COVID-19 Vaccine Status Validation," that asks recipients to validate their vaccination status on an embedded form on a website. The website then falsely claims the CDC and Utah DMV require this "Waiver Validation Update," which is not a process that exists. The text asks for personal information such as a name, date of birth, Social Security number, driver license number, weight, and ZIP Code, and doesn't ask anything about COVID-19. This is a scam and no response should be given.

The scam appears to have targeted people in Weber and Morgan counties, who reported it to the Weber-Morgan Health Department.

"The DMV does not ask for this type of information," said Jason Gardner, Public Information Officer for the Utah State Tax Commission. "Always be suspicious of unsolicited attachments or links asking for your personal information."

Utah state government entities do not require validation of vaccination status. Some private sector businesses may ask for proof of vaccination by showing a physical or digital vaccine record.

We recommend that anyone who filled out the scam form take precautions to monitor for identity theft.

Scammers launched a similar fraudulent text message in July 2021. That message pretended to come from the Utah Department of Transportation and asked people to verify their driver license information.

If you are the victim of a cyber crime, please contact your local law enforcement agency. In addition, you can report cyber crimes to the FBI's Internet Crime Complaint Center (IC3). Cyber crime often crosses state or international borders. Trained analysts review and research the complaints and disseminate them to the proper federal, state, local, or international law enforcement agencies.

For more information on cyber crimes, visit:

https://siac.utah.gov/cyber-security/.

https://www.consumer.ftc.gov/articles/how-recognize-and-report-spam-text-messages

## Media contacts (please do not publish):

Jason Gardner

Public Information officer

**Utah State Tax Commission** 

Phone: 801-702-9201

Joe Dougherty

**Director of Public Affairs** 

Utah Department of Public Safety

Phone 801-664-1530

Jenny Johnson

Public information officer

Utah Department of Health

Phone: 385-290-7826

Lori Buttars

Public information officer

Weber-Morgan Health Department

Contact: Ibuttars@co.weber.ut.us

## Examples of the text and form:

Download a screenshot of the original text message

Download a screenshot of the entire scam form

Both are viewable below

