

## Securities Bulletin Number 2021- 3 Protecting Your Online Accounts

## DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS REGUALTION PROVIDES TIPS TO HELP INVESTORS PROTECT ONLINE ACCOUNTS

The State of Rhode Island's Department of Business Regulation (DBR) issued an investor awareness advisory providing information to help investors better understand the potential threats to their online financial accounts and how to protect themselves from cybercriminals.

As financial technology has evolved, it has given consumers the ability to shop, save, and invest online using their phones, tablets, and computers. These modern financial conveniences, however, come with risk. Scammers always look for new ways to get into a consumer's pocketbook, electronically or otherwise.

Investors should be cautious in the way they use the conveniences offered by new and evolving financial technology, especially as they've become more widely used during the COVID-19 pandemic. A bit of caution can keep virtual distance between scammers and your money.

The advisory provides an overview of some of the common threats to online accounts and discusses steps investors can take to better protect themselves and their financial information.

The full advisory is available on the agency's website here www.dbr.ri.gov/divisions/securities/.

Before making any financial decisions, ask questions, do your homework and contact DBR's Securities Division at 401-462-9527 for more information.

*Department or agency*: Department of Business Regulation — Securities Division *Online*: http://www.dbr.ri.gov/divisions/securities/ *Release date*: 02-16-2021