

FRAUD ALERT!

November 2016

Weld County District Attorney's Office

Shopping Frauds

THE HOLIDAYS ARE FAST APPROACHING AND MOST OF US WILL BE BUYING GIFTS SOON.

BUT BEFORE YOU HEAD TO THE MALL OR INTO CYBERSPACE, **YOU BETTER WATCH OUT FOR SCAMS!**

BUYING ON-LINE

When shopping on-line, shop for well-known companies whenever possible. Already, the Better Business Bureau is reporting dozens of fake business websites advertising cheap goods.

Rule of thumb: If the company is not nationally or locally known, **RESEARCH!** Don't hand over your hard-earned money to the **GRINCH.**

BUYING IN PERSON

- Remember to ask for a receipt, especially when using a debit or credit card.
- Use a trackable payment, such as PayPal or a credit card.
- Don't leave your purse or wallet unattended on a counter or floor.



HOW TO TELL IF IT'S A SCAM

- Is the deal "**too good to be true**?" If so, you may want to rethink this purchase.
- Does the webpage include **https://** and a **padlock** in the **URL**? If not, this site isn't protecting your information.
- Is the only payment method Western Union or Money Grams? If so, **STAY AWAY!**

WeldDA.com BBB.org FTC.gov FBI.gov