

**GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO** 

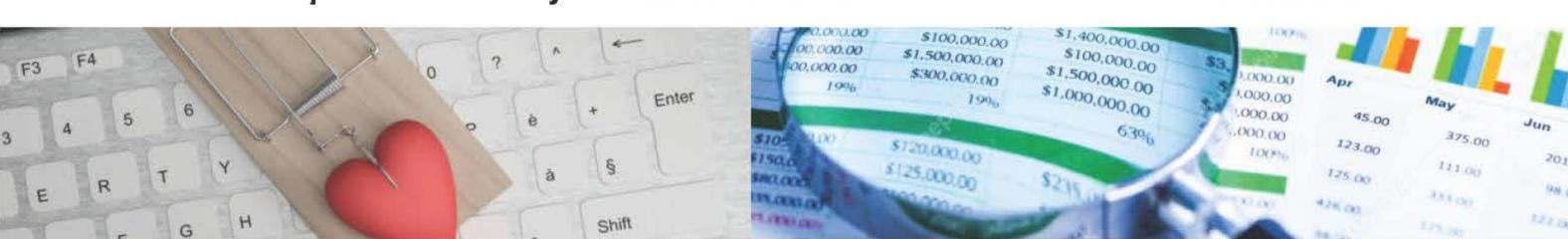
### FINANCIAL INTELLIGENCE UNIT OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO MINISTRY OF FINANCE



# ROMANCE SCAM/FRAUD

Alert/005/2021

The FIUTT has recorded STR/SAR submissions with approximately 100 victims of suspected Romance Scam/Fraud. This represents a loss of over TTD 2.3 Million to vulnerable citizens in 18 months.



## INDICATORS OF ROMANCE SCAM/FRAUD...?

#### Persons who:

- promise **RELATIONSHIPS**;
- promise **GIFTS**;
- promise to VISIT T&T to become engaged or get married;
- instruct you to PAY FUNDS into a 3rd party personal savings account (in T&T) for foreign shipping payments;
- claim to be sending cash with a gift and Customs has held it until you PAY a FEE;
- claim you have to PAY FEES for antimoney laundering clearance;
- claim that your personal gift and cash is being shipped through Diplomatic channels.

#### WHAT YOU SHOULD DO ...?

- **Stop communicating** with the person immediately!
- Never transfer money from your bank account or wire money to that 'love interest'! You will never get it back!
- **Contact your bank** immediately if you believe you sent or deposited money to a scammer!
- Talk to someone you trust. If your friends or family say they are troubled about your new 'love interest', then take heed...pay attention!
- Do your own internet searches on the person and/or whom they claim to be! You can also browse the comments on blogs about romance scams to hear other stories.
- Do a reverse image search of the person's profile picture. That way you will see if it's linked to another person's name or details that don't match! Those are signs of a scam.

**DON'T BECOME A VICTIM OF ROMANCE SCAM/FRAUD!!!** 

### How to Report Romance Scam/Fraud...?

Take Action

If you are a victim or you believe that your family or friend is a victim of a Romance Scam/Fraud,

please call the Trinidad and Tobago Police, Fraud Squad

at Telephone: 1(868) 625-2310; 1(868) 623-2644 and 1(868) 652-8594 or Email: fraud@ttps.gov.tt.

You may also send a disclosure to the FIUTT at fiutt@gov.tt.

Provide all the details of your communication with the fraudster.

**DON'T GET CAUGHT!!!**