

Lottery, Sweepstakes, & Prize Scams



Lottery & Sweepstake Scams

- YOU'RE A WINNER...for a fee
- **It is illegal to ask you to pay or buy something to enter or increase your odds of winning.**
- Letters often claim that you've been given the opportunity to play or have won a foreign lottery.
- Will often sell your information to other advertisers when you sign up.



SAMPLE MAILER

Lottery & Sweepstake Scams

[illegible]

External Envelope

524 29 USA

NOTIFICATION OF REMITTANCE

ASENDIA
 2. International
 3. Global Return
 4. 2000g
 5. 2000g

ECONOMY

P.P.
 Swiss Post
 CH400073403 Mülge

MS. JANE DOE
 123 ESTATE LANE
 SAGE CIRCLE, MT 00123

400

Solicitation

Payment Coupon

[illegible]

Return Envelope

SAMPLE EXTERNAL ENVELOPES

Lottery & Sweepstake Scams





ENTITLEMENT DISTRIBUTION CENTER
PMB #402, 1334 PENINSULA BLVD.
HEWLETT NY 11557

DELIVER BY:

☐ U.S. MAIL ☐ CERTIFIED MAIL
☐ OVERNIGHT COURIER
☐ REGISTERED MAIL
☒ BONDED SERVER

PRESORTED FIRST-CLASS **US POSTAGE \$00.41⁹**

APR 19 2016
ZIP 00123
GPO 100044

PRIZE RELEASE CERTIFICATE 3889-19C620

MS. JANE DOE
123 ESTATE LANE
SAGE CIRCLE, MT 00123

FIRST CLASS

NT-4	Source Code: 25	
	PIN	EDC-E1
	APPROVED MAIL	
	3889-19C	
	8894	
Approval Officer		



524-29 USA



ASENDIA
P.P. Swiss Post

ECONOMY
P.P. Swiss Post

MS. JANE DOE
123 ESTATE LANE
SAGE CIRCLE, MT 00123



URGENT LETTER

ASENDIA
P.P. Swiss Post

ECONOMY
P.P. Swiss Post

MS. JANE DOE
123 ESTATE LANE
SAGE CIRCLE, MT 00123



Marie de Fortune

Expert in celebrity research
and analysis
Fifth generation clairvoyant
and tarot expert
By appointment
routing time approximately 1 year

Lottery & Sweepstake Scams



(back of letter)

Official Sounding

Guaranteed Winnings

Hard to Read Fine Print

Personalized

SAMPLE PAYMENT COUPONS

IMPORTANT PAYMENT COMMUNIQUÉ

\$ 50,000.00

COMMUNIQUÉ

In no case will you receive a second registered letter with return receipt requested, since the situation is clear and unequivocal!

As stipulated in the payment conditions, we are ready to send the check for \$ 50,000.00! This amount is tax-free. **Ms. Doe**, please verify your personal information carefully since you will receive the next letter at the address at the right.

We are now waiting only to receive your FORMAL ACCEPTANCE OF PAYMENT carefully filled out (see back).

ADDRESS OF RECIPIENT

Ms. Jane Doe
123 Estate Ln.
Sage Circle, MT 00123

INFORMATION FOR MANAGEMENT

SERVICE: FINANCIAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE DEPARTMENT

REMINDER: The check for the main prize \$ 50,000.00 is to be sent once the "Formal Acceptance of Payment" from the main winner is received.

RESPONSE DEADLINE: ***** 7 DAYS *****

Urgent Timing

Payment Request

FORMAL ACCEPTANCE OF PAYMENT

\$ 50,000.00

VERY IMPORTANT! Fill out and return TODAY in the enclosed reply envelope.

DR. GRANT, P.O. BOX 115, NL-3940 AC DOORN, THE NETHERLANDS

Address of recipient: Ms. Jane Doe
123 Estate Ln.
Sage Circle, MT 00123

CONFIRMED

PRIZE RECEPTION

☐ I the undersigned, **Ms. Doe**, residing at the address indicated above, certify that I am fully aware of the registered letter with return receipt requested, confirming the prize of \$ 50,000.00 in the form of a **tax-free bank check I can cash**, as stipulated in the payment conditions.

☐ **THIS PAYMENT IS 100% FREE OF CHARGE.**

☐ I accept this check as soon as possible and ask you to send it safely via registered mail. **This is why I am now sending my "FORMAL ACCEPTANCE OF PAYMENT" filled out in accordance with the rules.**

☐ I am not enclosing my flat-fee participation of \$ 50 and my **WINNING CHECK** will be sent **not before 12 MONTHS** as stipulated in the rules.

☐ **NO**, I refuse this registered letter with return receipt requested and authorize you to give the check to someone else.

☐ I am sending the symbolic amount of \$ 50 (including shipping costs) to receive my revolutionary method of applied numerology. **My winning check will be enclosed with this method and I will receive it as soon as possible.**

URGENT REPLY REQUIRED

☐ Please process my order in priority for an additional \$ 5, a total of \$ 55.

I am paying my participation towards cost of \$ 50 or \$ 55 as follows:
(Fill out and return in the enclosed reply envelope.)

☐ By bank or postal check enclosed made out to Dr. Grant ☐ By cash enclosed

☐ By credit card: ☐ Visa ☐ MasterCard

Card No.: _____

Expires on: _____ Date: _____

Signature: _____

(Required for credit card payment) (I have read, understood and accept the conditions of participation)

(back of coupon)

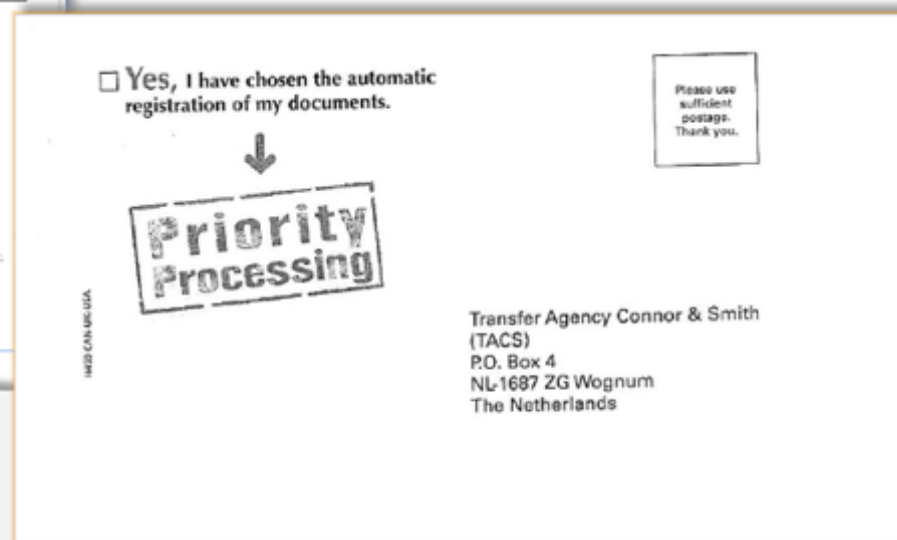
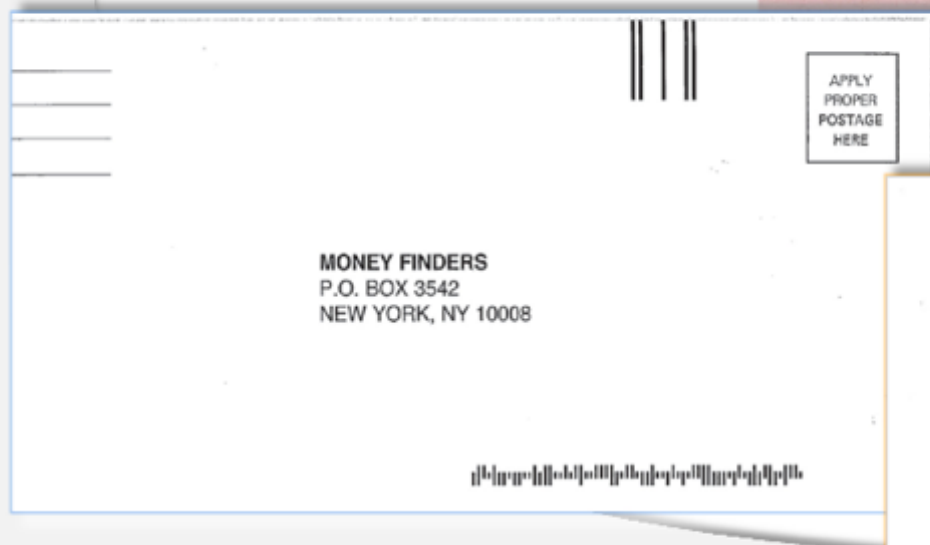


SAMPLE RETURN ENVELOPES

Lottery & Sweepstake Scams



**Pre-Addressed to
P.O. Box**



Lottery & Sweepstake Scams

- **Signs of a prize scam:**
 - You have to pay a fee to receive the prize (illegal).
 - You have to wire money or send a prepaid debit card.
 - You have to deposit a check that they send you to claim your prize (fake check scam).
 - You have to attend a sales meeting to win.



Lottery & Sweepstake Scams

- Text Message Scams

Your phone number has
being randomly selected
for a cash prize of
\$4,950,000USD in our
2016 PROMOTION/
PRIZE AWARD. Email
your details to
[claims@lottoo649pro.co
m](mailto:claims@lottoo649pro.com)



Lottery & Sweepstake Scams

- **How to avoid being scammed:**
 - Do your research before sending any money or personal information.
 - Don't click on any links in a text message or email.
 - Report spam text messages to your cell phone carrier and then delete the text message.
 - Notify your state attorney general or local consumer protection office.
 - Report it to the Federal Trade Commission (1-877-FTC-HELP)



Resources

- <https://www.consumer.ftc.gov/articles/0199-prize-scams#textmessage>
- [https://www.justice.gov/sites/default/files/pages/attachments/2016/09/20/for web visualaide fullmailer 091416.pdf](https://www.justice.gov/sites/default/files/pages/attachments/2016/09/20/for_web_visualaide_fullmailer_091416.pdf)
- <https://www.ncoa.org/blog/3-most-popular-scams-targeting-seniors-2017/>

Thank You



mmLearn.org



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