Police Department

Computer Related Crime Warning

Members of the UAH community have reported several computer related crimes this semester. UAH Police Department reminds you that technology not only enhances, but threatens modern society and that crime is changing at pace with technological advances. Estimated costs for computer intrusions are over $300 billion dollars worldwide with up to 99% of all major businesses reporting some sort of computer related loss. Problems vary from nuisance activities such as "spamming" - to computer assisted criminal activity such as intelligence gathering - to computer-initiated criminal activity such as wire transfers and fraud. Victims may suffer financial losses and identity theft which could take years to overcome. Lack of reporting to law enforcement encourages this type of criminal activity to increase. If you are a victim of a computer related crime or feel that your system has been compromised, please contact UAH Police Department. Below is a list of "Online World" precautions to take along with some useful sites.

- "Don't take the bait!" Stay away from phishers
- Never use links that are included in e-mails, make sure you type them in yourself
- Install and regularly update security software
- Never IM, text, or e-mail a stranger
- Don't share personal information via technology
- Don't use common or easy passwords
- Make sure that you wipe or destroy drives completely before disposal
- Report any suspicious computer related activity

  Sites to visit for additional information:
  WWW.FBI.gov/scams-safety/
  WWW.ic3.gov
  WWW.stoppfraud.gov

  (Prepared by Officer Mike Pitsis)