

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

November 20, 2023

With the holidays approaching, the Burlington Police Department would like to encourage neighbors to consider some tips and alternatives when shopping this holiday season.

When it comes to online shopping:

- Make sure to check your devices when making purchases. Utilizing software updates, strong passwords, and updating settings can help provide protection against vulnerabilities.
- Visit and browse trusted sources. Review and verify vendors before providing information or clicking links/downloading attachments.
- Use safe methods when making payments. When possible, use credit cards and review bank statements for any suspicious charges.

Take preventative measures when selecting delivery options:

- Set up notifications to track packages.
- Require a signature on delivery.
- Use alternative shipping methods such as placing shipments on hold and picking up at the post office.

Please visit the following websites for additional information and resources:

- Cybersecurity & Infrastructure Security Agency | Holiday Online Safety
  <a href="https://www.cisa.gov/sites/default/files/publications/Holiday%2520Online%2520Safety\_tip%2520sheets\_2020-v5-DW\_508%2520pobs.pdf">https://www.cisa.gov/sites/default/files/publications/Holiday%2520Online%2520Safety\_tip%2520sheets\_2020-v5-DW\_508%2520pobs.pdf</a>
- United States Postal Inspection Service | Holiday Readiness
  <a href="https://www.uspis.gov/holiday-readiness">https://www.uspis.gov/holiday-readiness</a>
  <a href="https://www.uspis.gov/wp-content/uploads/2020/11/Holiday-Tips\_16NOV20.pdf">https://www.uspis.gov/wp-content/uploads/2020/11/Holiday-Tips\_16NOV20.pdf</a>
- United States Postal Service https://www.usps.com/