



Fraud Friday August 6, 2021

Online  Interest + Asks for   = SCAM

FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION

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Learn more: [ftc.gov/romancescams](https://ftc.gov/romancescams)

Report romance scams: [ReportFraud.ftc.gov](https://ReportFraud.ftc.gov)

The graphic is a purple banner with a large orange heart outline on the left. The text "Online  Interest + Asks for   = SCAM" is centered. On the right, there is a white arrow pointing left containing the Federal Trade Commission logo and the text "FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION". At the bottom, there is a dark blue bar with the text "FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION" on the left, "Learn more: [ftc.gov/romancescams](https://ftc.gov/romancescams)" in the middle, and "Report romance scams: [ReportFraud.ftc.gov](https://ReportFraud.ftc.gov)" on the right, with a small red heart icon between the two links.

Here's the bottom line: ***Never send money or gifts to a sweetheart you haven't met in person. Scammers ask you to pay by wiring money, with reload cards, or with gift cards because they can get cash quickly and remain anonymous. They also know the transactions are almost impossible to reverse.***

If you suspect a romance scam

- Stop communicating with the person immediately.
- Talk to someone you trust, and pay attention if your friends or family say they're concerned about your new love interest.
- Do a search for the type of job the person has to see if other people have heard similar stories. For example, you could do a search for "oil rig scammer" or "US Army scammer."

Reference: <https://www.ftc.gov/>