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## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **Fraudulent e-mail consumer alert from the FDIC**

Washington Financial has received an alert message from the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) pertaining to fraudulent e-mails that appear to be from the FDIC. The e-mail informs the recipient that “in cooperation with the Department of Homeland Security, federal, state and local governments...” the FDIC has withdrawn deposit insurance from the recipient’s account “due to account activity that violates the Patriot Act.”

The e-mail further states that deposit insurance will remain suspended until identity and account information can be verified using a system called “IDVerify.” If consumers go to the link provided in the e-mail, it is suspected that they will be asked for personal or confidential information, or malicious software may be loaded onto the recipient’s computer.

This e-mail is fraudulent. It was not sent by the FDIC. It is an attempt to obtain personal information from consumers. Do NOT access the link provided within the body of the e-mail and do NOT under any circumstances provide any personal information through this media.

The FDIC is attempting to identify the source of the e-mails and disrupt the transmission. Please report any similar attempts to the FDIC by sending information to [alert@fdic.gov](mailto:alert@fdic.gov).

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