NAPSA Scam Advice Forum November 2026

Topic: Digital Arrests: A digital arrest is a cyber extortion scam where fraud criminals impersonate law enforcement or government officials, using fake video calls, staged 'court' hearings, and forged legal documents to terrify victims into believing they face immediate imprisonment. This may include faking their association with drug and gun cartels, terrorist organizations, and other criminal enterprises, forcing them to transfer money/life savings under extreme psychological pressure for 'alternative bail' options, demanding secrecy and often requiring online 'checking in' to ensure compliance.

Co-Hosts: Steve Baker and Debbie Deem
Sign up for Steve's weekly '**www.Bakerfraudreport.com**' for worldwide news/trends/ arrests/prosecutions transnational organized crime frauds/scams.

National Elder Fraud Hotline (U.S. DOJ) 1-833-372-8311National federal hotline for adults 60 and over to report fraud and providing support and resources/safety tips. Help with filing IC3 and FTC reports. Language line. https://ovc.ojp.gov/program/stop-elder-fraud/providing-help-restoring-hope

Report Fraud to Local Police/Adult Protective Services (APS) as Well as One or More of These Federal Govt. Databases/Agencies

- FBI Internet Crime Complaint Center www.ic3.gov
- Federal Trade Commission (FTC) www.reportfraud.ftc.gov
- Report Identity Theft to the FTC www.identitytheft.gov
- U.S Postal Inspection Service (USPIS) 1-877-876-2455 https://www.uspis.gov/report

- If Crypto Investment Confidence Fraud/Crypto-Relationship Investment (Pig Butchering)- contact local U.S. Secret Service office, in addition filing a complaint with CryptoFraud@SecretService.gov and www.ic3.gov.
- FBI Guidance for Crypto-Currency Fraud Victims in Completing an IC3 report https://www.ic3.gov/Media/Y2023/PSA230824

Digital Arrests

FBI's IC3.gov Scammers Impersonating Law Enforcement and Government Officials in Fraud Schemes: https://www.ic3.gov/PSA/2026/PSA260917

AARP Perfect Scam Podcast- Couple Held In Virtual House Arrest By FBI Imposter Scam
https://www.aarp.org/podcasts/the-perfect-scam/fbi-impostor-bail-scam/

The Digital Arrest Terror- How Scammers Legally Intimidate Victims Into 70 Hour Video Interrogations https://www.everybodylovesyourmoney.com/2026/02/19/the-digital-arrest-terror-how-scammers-legally-intimidate-victims-into-70-hour-video-interrogations.html

Indian Man Who Fled US Arrested on Charges He Helped Scammers Siphon $7.5 Million From the Elderly (Courier- Digital Arrests) https://therecord.media/cyber-scam-indian-arrested

How Falling for a Fake FBI Probe Led Florida Man to Lose Quarter of a Million
https://www.msn.com/en-us/news/crime/how-falling-for-a-fake-fbi-probe-led-florida-man-to-lose-quarter-of-a-million/ar-AA27fbGZ

Digital Arrest in the Cyber Age: A Psychological Perspective on Fear, Authority and Consciousness
https://www.frontiersin.org/journals/psychology/articles/10.3389/fpsyg.2026.1726740/full

AI Digital Arrest Scams Targeting Seniors: Fake Warrants, Fake Judges, Real Fear
https://seniors.hcsk.org/ai-powered-scams-targeting-seniors/ai-digital-arrest-scams-targeting-seniors/

Digital Arrest Scam: How Fake Police Video Calls Drain Your Bank Account
https://malwaretips.com/blogs/digital-arrest-scam/

Digital Arrest Could Become Next Big US Scam Wave (discusses links to scam compounds)
https://frankonfraud.com/digital-arrest-could-become-next-big-us-scam-wave/

See also Frank McKenna on Operation Shamrock Stolen Podcast Discussing This- AI Driven Scamming Isn't A Future Risk- It's Already Here
https://www.operationshamrock.org/podcast/stolen/ep61-frank-mckenna

India Origins- and Links to Cambodia 'Forced to Scam' Compounds

Digital Arrests: Inside India's Biggest Scam and How to Tackle It https://www.business-standard.com/finance/news/digital-arrests-inside-india-s-biggest-scam-and-how-to-tackle-it-125101300127_1.html (Good banking ideas)

First Images of Cambodia Arrest Factory, Digital Arrest Fakery Hub On Camera | India Today
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kNj9-9eIBFk&t=89

Duped of Millions in Digital Arrest, Indian woman Seeks Answers From Banks (BBC)
https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/clydllln9lgo

Digital Arrest In the Cyber-Age: A Psychological Perspective on Fear, Authority and Consciousness (2026) https://www.frontiersin.org/journals/psychology/articles/10.3389/fpsyg.2026.1726740/full

India's Digital Dream, Hacked (Bloomberg) https://www.bloomberg.com/features/2025-india-digital-scams/

Graphic Novel Version of Bloomberg Article: https://www.bloomberg.com/graphics/2025-india-digital-arrest-by-phone-graphic-novel/

Free Online Fraud Support Group Programs

AARP Fraud Support Groups and Helpline Support for those victimized and family members of these frauds, special groups for romance scams and spouses of those victimized. Includes the Fraud Watch Network where trained volunteers respond to inquiries about fraud at 877-908-3360: You don't have to be AARP member, no age restriction.

- To register for the free support groups https://www.aarp.org/money/scams-fraud/fraud-victim-support-group/?cmp=RDRCT-CSN-FRD-NEW-SUPPORT_GROUP_PAGE
- Fraud webinars - https://www.aarp.org/events/scam-prevention/

FightCyberCrime www.fightcybercrime.org Free romance imposter fraud and crypto investment fraud online peer support programs, all ages. Includes online information for many types of online fraud.

- https://fightcybercrime.org/programs/romance-scam-recovery-group/

Fraud Awareness Network offers weekly peer-to-peer program for victims age 60 and over, facilitated by Lifespan of Greater Rochester, Inc. fraudnetwork@lifespanrochester.org or call 585-244-8400

Give An Hour Free online support programs for victims and loved ones with peer support, all ages.

- https://giveanhour.org/financial-fraud/
- Connect to counselors or accessing support group https://giveanhour.org/financial-fraud/
- Financial Fraud Mental Health Professional Training & Cadre Registration https://giveanhour.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_6fn5URwwbvMX2mi
- Working with Fraud Survivors https://giveanhour.org/wp-content/uploads/Working-with-Scam-and-Fraud-Survivors-Resource.pdf

Cathy Wilson, Therapist Cathy Wilson, Therapist https://www.scamsurvivorhealing.com/
Includes free YouTube video series for those victimized, and resources/videos for family members, mental health professionals, law enforcement, etc. https://www.scamsurvivorhealing.com

- https://www.youtube.com/@fraudpsychology/videos
- Trauma Therapy Training for Therapists Serving Fraud Victims https://www.scamsurvivorhealing.com/mental-health-trauma-scams-fraud/

Additional National Victim Support Resources:

AARP Fraud Watch Network – a free, nationwide initiative that empowers consumers to fight back against identity theft and scams. Open to people of all ages regardless of AARP membership, offers a toll-free helpline, real-time scam alerts, peer support groups for victims, and educational resources. **https://www.aarp.org/money/scams-fraud/about-fraud-watch-network/ 877-908-3360**

- **Professional Resources: Words Matter: Improving Outcomes for Crime Victims** https://www.aarp.org/lp/words-matter/

Fightcybercrime.org Online information, support and how to recognize, report and recover (including support groups and informative blogs) for many types of online fraud. https://fightcybercrime.org/

- Resources for Family and Friends https://fightcybercrime.org/blog/category/family-friend-resources/

Identity Theft Resource Center provides free crime victim identity theft assistance through a toll-free call center, at 888-400-5530, live chat, website, podcasts, and social media. www.idtheftcenter.org Includes access to freezing credit and info on other sites to protect at (www.frozenpii.org)

Operation Shamrock Resource for those victimized in crypto investment/romance transnational crimes. Includes link to possibly help trace digital money. Bimonthly online meeting forum for those victimized and helpers. https://www.operationshamrock.org/

- Includes reporting form to request 'tracing' of crypto funds.
  - https://www.operationshamrock.org/reporting-basics

VictimConnect Resource Center, through the National Center for Victims of Crime, is a 24-hour anonymous and confidential hotline where victims of any crime can receive support, information and referral options confidentially. Call or text 855-484-2846 https://victimsofcrime.org/

Advocating Against Romance Scammers Comprehensive support, education and advocacy initiatives, including resources for those victimized. https://advocatingforu.com/

Better Business Bureau (BBB) Scam Recovery Toolkit
https://scamsurvivaltoolkit.bbbmarketplacetrust.org/

National Suicide and Crisis Lifeline Dial or text to '988' or 1-800-273-8255 https://988lifeline.org/

Legal Resources:

Scam Justice Legal Clinic: SJLC provides free consultations with an attorney to empower victims by helping them understand their legal options, document their cases, and take proactive steps to protect themselves

- https://www.dwt.com/about/pro-bono/scam-justice-legal-clinic
- To request services, email ScamJustice@dwt.com.

National Association of Consumer Advocates (NACA) To find a consumer law attorney who specializes in various consumer rights/fraud victimization https://www.consumeradvocates.org/findanattorney/

National Consumer Law Center (Resources for Finding Attorneys) https://www.nclc.org/

- Provides list of resources/attorney options, including finding legal aid offices, a consumer attorney, a consumer bankruptcy attorney, affordable or pro-bono attorneys, and your state utility consumer advocate.