

Scam - Fraudulent Purchase Orders

We want to alert you to a nationwide fraud scam that is targeting suppliers for colleges across the country. Please take precautions so that you are not a victim of this scam.

The fraud scam involves purchase orders and requests for product quotations that purport to originate from the University but are in fact fraudulent. The FBI is involved.

According to multiple schools, the emails request quotes for specific merchandise. Later, a purchase order is emailed to the business that bears resemblance to an authentic University purchase order. The purchase order instructs delivery to an address not affiliated with the University.

After shipping the merchandise, the business never receives payment and is unable to retrieve the mailed products.

If an order is received by email, please alert your staff to hover over the address to see if it was sent from an address that contains an ending of "@brown.edu".

In addition, please confirm the address for any suspicious or large dollar orders, with the ordering department. All orders for Brown University should be delivered only to official Brown University addresses.

Should you receive what appears to be a suspicious order, please contact Brown University Purchasing Department at 401-863-2206.