

# Scam Alert – FTC does not want your Banking Info

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## By Putnam County State Bank – To Keep it From Happening to You

(reprinted from [consumer.ftc.gov](http://consumer.ftc.gov))

The FTC (Federal Trade Commission) is known for getting things done on behalf of regular people. Unfortunately, sometimes scammers try to take advantage of the FTC's reputation.

The latest scam: People are getting emails that claim to be from Maureen Ohlhausen, the FTC's Acting Chairman. These emails are not from the acting chairman. The email asks you to give your bank account information so you can get money from the government's settlement with Western Union. The email is a scam to steal your financial information. If you get an email like this, don't respond or click on any links. You can forward it to the FTC at [spam@uce.gov](mailto:spam@uce.gov)

The FTC is involved in a \$586 million settlement with Western Union, but the U. S. Department of Justice will run the refunds process and it hasn't started yet.

This email is a good reminder that scammers are skilled liars. They will say anything or claim to be anyone to get your financial information. They will then use this information to steal from your financial accounts or commit other crimes.

The FTC does shut down scams and return money to people who lost it to dishonest or unfair business practices. The FTC will never ask for money, your Social Security number, or any banking information so you can apply for a refund or cash a check. If the FTC needs to get money to your, we usually send a check through the mail.

You can get more information about the FTC's current refund programs and their procedures for refunding money at [FTC.gov/refunds](http://FTC.gov/refunds).