

Example of a Scam Text Message

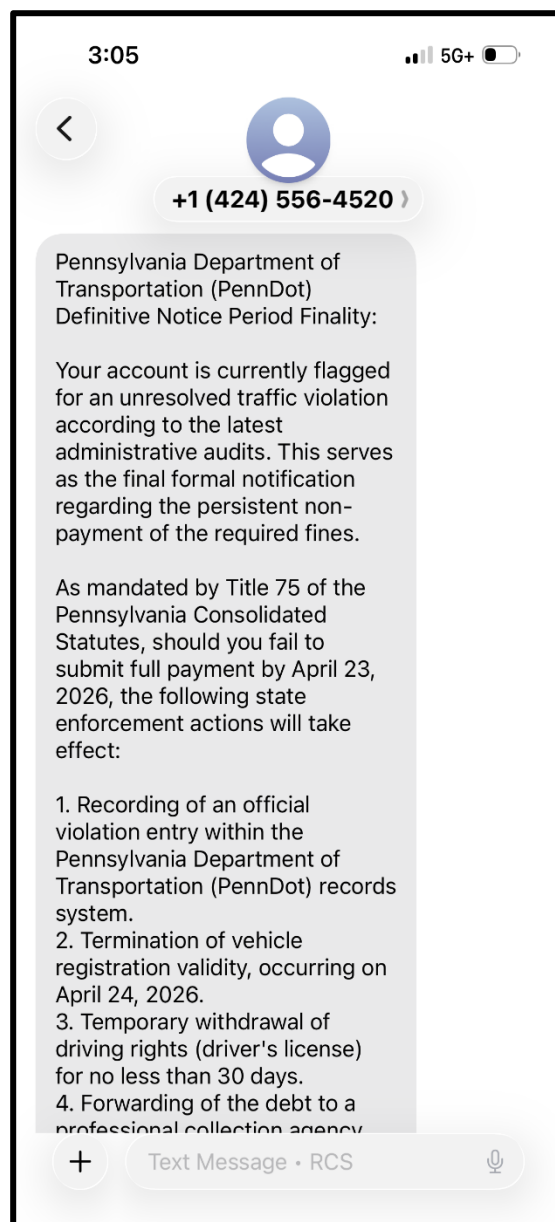
by

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The screen shot below is a copy of a text message sent to me by a scammer. It says that I have a traffic violation and that I need to pay a fine or bad things will happen to me. The full message appears in the page that follows. There are several clues that this is a scam:

1. Such a threat from the State of Pa is never delivered by text message.
2. The area code in the text – 424 – is located in California
3. The link provided is not a legitimate PA website. The Pennsylvania government website is: www.pa.gov, NOT the one shown in the message.



The SCAM message in full:

Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PennDot) Definitive Notice Period Finality:

Your account is currently flagged for an unresolved traffic violation according to the latest administrative audits. This serves as the final formal notification regarding the persistent non-payment of the required fines.

As mandated by Title 75 of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, should you fail to submit full payment by April 23, 2026, the following state enforcement actions will take effect:

1. Recording of an official violation entry within the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PennDot) records system.
2. Termination of vehicle registration validity, occurring on April 24, 2026.
3. Temporary withdrawal of driving rights (driver's license) for no less than 30 days.
4. Forwarding of the debt to a professional collection agency with an added 35% service charge.
5. Potential initiation of legal recovery processes and derogatory reporting to credit agencies.

To halt these proceedings, you must finalize the transaction immediately through the following official URL:

<https://pa.gov-pa.one/bmv?var=ZgQEmHpwSb>. **(DO NOT GO TO THIS LINK)**