



## ORLEANS POLICE DEPARTMENT

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### 8) Travel scams

*Subject: You won a cruise!*

*You Won A Cruise X*

*You have just won a cruise aboard a 1600 passenger luxury liner.*

*Click here for details*

These scams are most active during the summer months. You receive an email with the offer to get amazingly low fares to some exotic destination but you must book it today or the offer expires that evening. If you call, you'll find out the travel is free but the hotel rates are highly overpriced.

Some can offer you rock-bottom prices but hide certain high fees until you "sign on the dotted line". Others, in order to give you the "free" something, will make you sit through a timeshare pitch at the destination. Still others can just take your money and deliver nothing.

Also, getting your refund, should you decide to cancel, is usually a lost cause, often called a nightmare or mission-impossible.

Your best strategy is to book your trip in person, through a reputable travel agency or proven legitimate online service like Travelocity or Expedia.