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NEW E-MAIL SCAM “PHISHING” FOR VICTIMS!

“Thieves could be emptying your bank account online right now. And you could be helping them,” Dr. Keith B. Darrell, author of the new book, *Issues in Internet Law: Society, Technology, and the Law*, warned.

A simple e-mail claiming to be from your bank, or PayPal, or eBay could be the thieves’ key to your account. The scam, known as “phishing” (pronounced fishing), begins with the victim receiving the e-mail, warning of suspicious activity in his account and advising that his account has been temporarily suspended until he clicks a link in the e-mail and logs in to the bank, or PayPal, or eBay website. But the link really leads to the scammer’s website, where the victim unknowingly gives the scammer the user name and password to his real account.

“The scammer is then free to clean out the victim’s account,” Darrell said. “And the victim helped him do it!” Phishing is just one of several dangerous online scams Darrell outlines in his new book, *Issues in Internet Law: Society, Technology, and the Law*. “You would be amazed what people realize they don’t know, after they take the free quiz on the IssuesinInternetLaw.com website,” Darrell added.

In his book, *Issues in Internet Law: Society, Technology, and the Law*, Darrell describes the various types of phishing scams, including “spear phishing,” where the scammer poses as a high-level executive in the targeted corporation and demands confidential information from one of the employees. *Issues in Internet Law: Society, Technology, and the Law* is available through the IssuesInInternetLaw.com website or through Amazon.com and Barnes and Noble (BN.com).

Even more dangerous, according to Darrell, is “personalized phishing,” where the victim receives an e-mail already containing personalized accurate account information that the scammers have already obtained from other sources. By using the victim’s name and accurate account information, the scammers then ask the victim for even more sensitive information, which they then sell to other scammers at a premium. “*Issues in Internet Law: Society, Technology, and the Law* has an entire chapter devoted to cyber crimes because it is such a hot issue right now,” Darrell said. “If that one chapter saves someone’s bank account, then I think the book has paid for itself!”

Issues in Internet Law: Society, Technology, and the Law is available in softcover (ISBN 978-1-935971-30-6) and hardcover (ISBN 978-1-935971-31-3) editions. through the IssuesInInternetLaw.com website or through Amazon.com and Barnes and Noble (BN.com). An electronic version may be downloaded from VitalSource at <http://store.vitalsource.com/show/978-1-935971-AB-C>.