

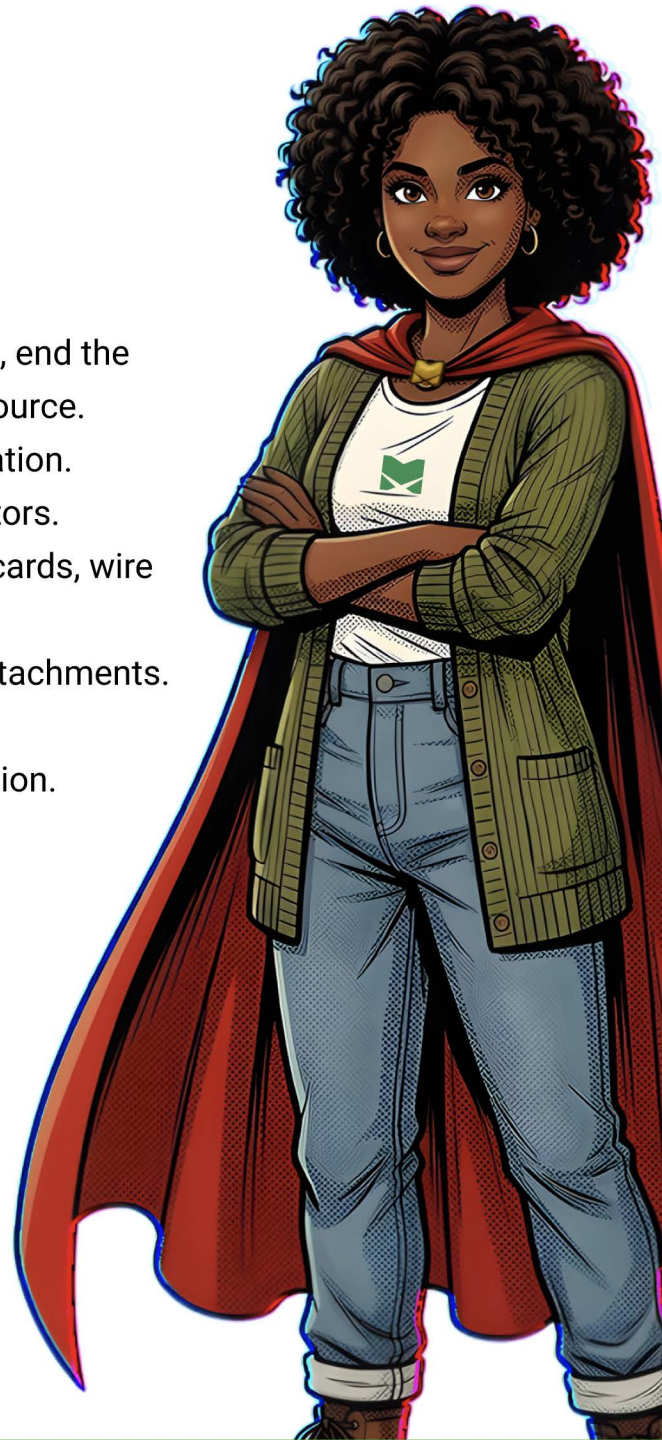
# BE A HERO AGAINST FRAUD.

## BEAT THE CHEAT – Quick tips to protect yourself from scams

1. Block unwanted calls and texts.
2. Resist pressure to act quickly. If you feel pressured, end the interaction and verify the request using a trusted source.
3. Question requests for personal or financial information.
4. Be skeptical of unexpected messages, calls or visitors.
5. Never pay through questionable methods (i.e. gift cards, wire transfers, prepaid cards, etc.)
6. Never click suspicious links or open unexpected attachments.
7. Verify URLs (look for https:// and a lock icon).
8. Use strong passwords and multi-factor authentication.

## If you have been scammed

1. Contact your bank or credit card company immediately.
2. Contact the credit bureaus (consider a fraud alert or credit freeze).
3. Report it to your local police and Consumer Affairs at: [Consumer@co.middlesex.nj.us](mailto:Consumer@co.middlesex.nj.us) | **732-398-2300**



*Learn how to save the day:*

**MiddlesexCountyNJ.gov/FRAUD**

