



MUSIC TEACHERS NATIONAL ASSOCIATION

MTNA has become aware of a scam directed toward music teachers. As many of you are likely aware, there has been a marked increase in the efforts of individuals performing acts of fraud via the Internet. Until recently these acts were not specifically targeted to independent music teachers, however, over the past few weeks many music teachers have received e-mails inquiring about having international students study with them. The person sending the e-mail poses as a parent interested in having their child or children study with them. The music teacher is offered prepayment for a certain amount of lessons, and once a cashier's check is sent and in the bank the teacher is asked to refund a large portion of the check because of some emergency or to pay for the fees the "parent" incurred in transferring the money and obtaining the check or for their children's travel. The cashier's check is an elaborate counterfeit and it takes the bank longer than usual to discover the fake.

If you receive an e-mail similar to one of those above do not respond to them. Due to the high number of these scams, it is impossible to investigate each e-mail. If you or someone you know have lost funds because of this type of fraud, please contact your local field office of the Secret Service. A list of field offices is available at [http://www.secretservice.gov/field\\_offices.shtml](http://www.secretservice.gov/field_offices.shtml).

For more information about common types of Internet fraud, visit the FBI website at <http://www.fbi.gov/cyber/cysweep/cysweep1.htm>.

If you would like to be removed from this mailing list, please reply to [mtnanet@mtna.org](mailto:mtnanet@mtna.org) with the subject line reading "Remove, (Your Name)." Please be advised by removing your name from our e-mail list, you will no longer receive e-mail communication on any subject from MTNA.