



# Brushing Scam

## How it works...

- A person receives packages or parcels containing various sorts of items which were not ordered or requested by the recipient.
- There is no return address, and the sender of the item(s) is usually an international third-party seller who has found the recipient's address online.
- The merchandise is usually cheap and low-cost to ship

## HERE IS WHAT TO DO.....

While it may appear to be a victimless crime, the reality is that your personal information may be compromised.

Never pay for the merchandise if it contains a bill or QR code inside. If the package is marked with a return address, and is UNOPENED, you may mark it "Return To Sender" and USPS will return it at no charge to you. If you opened it, and do not wish to keep it, you may simply dispose of it in the garbage, as long as it is safe to do so. If you opened it and you like it, you may keep it. By law, you may keep unsolicited merchandise and are under no obligation to pay for it. If the merchandise is organic (seeds, food, plants) or an unknown liquid, notify the proper authorities and follow their instructions..

The intention of this scam is to give the impression that the recipient (you) is a verified buyer who has written positive online reviews for the items received; meaning they write a fake review in your name. This can be a profitable pay-off for the scammer. Your personal information may have been compromised. Closely monitor your credit reports and credit card bills. Notify the retailer, if known. If unsolicited merchandise arrives from Amazon, eBay, or another third-party seller, go to that company's website and file a fraud report. Ask the company to remove any fake reviews under your name.