

## TEXT ALERT—IF YOU RECEIVE A TEXT REGARDING YOUR ACCOUNT:

We have retained the law firm of Linebarger Goggan Blair & Sampson, LLP to assist in resolving delinquent accounts, and you may receive text messages from Linebarger. Be aware that there have been recent scam attempts to impersonate various government entities and their collection agents.

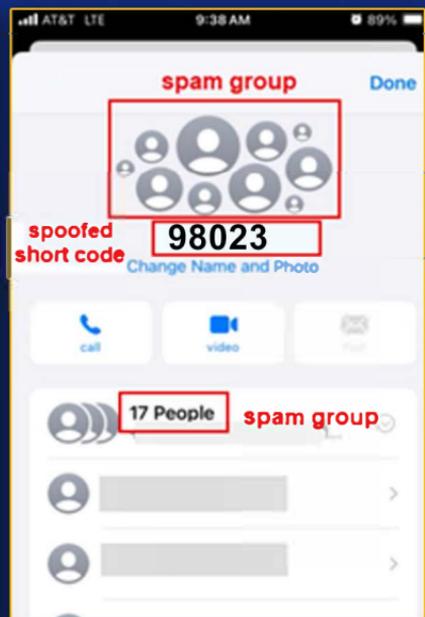
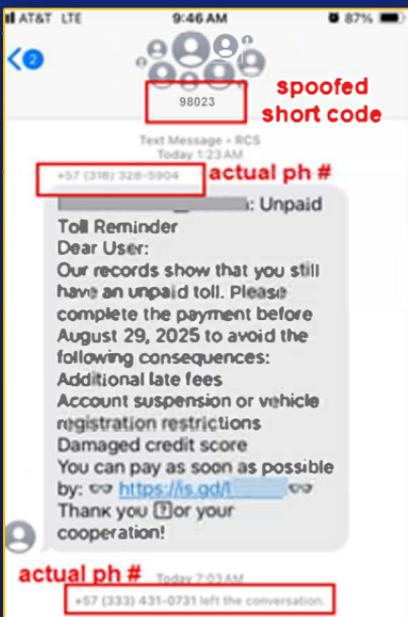
Any text from Linebarger will originate from the following short code phone number (98023) and contain this branding:



Scammers may attempt to spoof a 5-digit or 6-digit short code, but their texts will have a full phone number included (sometimes with a Country Code), and are usually sent to groups of people with no specific recipient name.

Linebarger texts will always include your name, an account-specific reference number, a call-back number, a link to Disclosures and Frequently Asked Questions, and a link to a payment website.

Here's an example of one scam text:



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### **[LINEBARGER ATTORNEYS AT LAW]**

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### **Example 1: The Deceptive Message (Left Screenshot)**

This screenshot shows a text message conversation that looks official at first glance but contains several "red flags" highlighted in the graphic.

- **The "Masked" Sender:** At the very top, where the sender's name usually appears, it says **"98023."** Red text points to this, calling it a **"spoofed short code."** This means the scammer has manually typed in a 5-digit number as their "Name" to make it look like an automated government alert.
- **The "Hidden" Number:** Just below the header, a grey box reveals the real source of the message. A red box surrounds a full international phone number: **+57 (318) 328-5904.** This is labeled as the **"actual phone #"** and indicates the message is coming from a standard phone line (in this case, from Colombia, based on the +57 code) rather than a secure short code.
- **Generic Greeting:** The message starts with **"Dear User,"** rather than a specific person's name.
- **The Threat and Link:** The text uses urgent language about "unpaid tolls" and "registration restrictions," followed by a suspicious, shortened web link for payment.

- **The Group Exit:** At the bottom, a notification shows another international number, **+57 (333) 431-0731**, leaving the conversation. This reveals that the user was actually added to a large group chat, which a real government agency would never do.

### **Example 2: The "Spam Group" Details (Right Screenshot)**

This screenshot shows the "Group Info" screen, which unmasks the scam's structure.

- **Fake Contact Name:** Again, the "Contact Name" for this group has been set to **"98023"** to mimic the Linebarger short code. The graphic points this out as the **"spoofed short code."**
- **Mass Messaging:** Below the name, it shows there are **"17 People"** in the chat. A red box labels this as a **"spam group."** This illustrates that the scammer is sending the same message to a dozen or more strangers at once, whereas a legitimate tax or toll notification would be a private, one-on-one communication.
- **Generic Icons:** The profile pictures for the group are just generic grey silhouettes, a common sign of automated or bulk-created spam accounts.