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Capstone Research, Inc. has become aware of a fraudulent e-mail phishing scam being sent to the general public under the Capstone name. There are several variants of the scam e-mails purporting to offer payments for completing a 'Secret Shopper' study. There is usually a slight variation in the spelling of Capstone Research. For instance: Capssstone Research. After replying, the recipient receives a envelope with a Cashiers Check from ALLIANCE BANK and assignment instructions.

**THIS CHECK IS FRADULENT! DO NOT DEPOSIT THIS CHECK!**

Recipients are asked to deposit the check into their account. Make a small purchase the send the remainder of the check amount (Less a \$300 fee as your payment) back to them via a Walmart Money Transfer.

If you deposit or cash this fraudulent check, you will be responsible for the entire amount of the check plus bank fees.

Capstone Research, Inc. does not offer 'Secret Shopper' opportunities to the general public. 'Secret Shoppers' employed by CRI have been thoroughly instructed and trained in the proper procedures to complete their assignments. If you would like apply to become a 'Secret Shopper', please visit our CAREERS page and submit your information.

If you have already received such e-mails, you are advised to terminate all further contact with the scammers, and in the event that you have sent them funds, contact your local law enforcement agency immediately. You can also file a complaint with the US Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), through the following website: <http://www.ic3.gov/default.aspx>. If the envelope was sent by US Mail, contact the US post office mail fraud division.