

From: Rebecca C. Johnson, Arlington, VA

Subject: Electronic Fund Transfers

Comments:

How Even smarter people can be victims.

An account holder loses track of a minimal purchase at any point and over draws just \$1; they receive a \$35 overdraft fee.

The account is now negative \$36 : The account holder making a \$1 mistake thinks they have a zero balance not a negative balance

They deposit \$30 and now believe they have a positive \$30 balance and intend to use it : they make more small purchases totaling under \$30.

They are negative \$6 before they even start, so every small purchase generates another \$35 overdraft fee.

This can quickly add up, every three transactions is over a hundred dollars, a lot of money to someone that clearly does not have a whole lot to begin with.

In this scenario a one time accounting error of even less than \$1 can produce multiple fines totaling hundreds of dollars. It makes a lot of effortless money for the bank. The exact numbers don't matter for a proof, I choose the ones I did for simplicity. This scenario is typical of a low income individual, making small purchases, and small deposits - paying big fines.

Sincerely,
Rebecca C. Johnson
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I would rather be exposed to the inconveniences attending too much liberty than to those attending too small a degree of it.

- Thomas Jefferson