

You're reading BLAINESWORLD, a weekly blog published by Blaine Greenfield. It usually comes out on Sundays, but this special issue is being sent to you to:

- \* Alert you of the fact that somebody has set up another account using my name and some of my pictures.
- \* Help prevent this from happening to you.
- \* Share with you an article that will provide you with much more useful information on why this happens.

Please feel free to share this missive with 437 of your closest friends and relatives.. ... And In the unlikely event that you or they are not already a subscriber, just click the following link to be added to the free mailing list: [Here](#).

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#1424  
12.27.2023

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### 1. What happened to my account

A. On Christmas Day, I started hearing from a bunch of you that you were being invited to friend me on Facebook--despite the fact that we were already friends. What you probably got was an invite similar to the one below. It asked you to friend me. You'll see below my name is an address that reads: @Blaine.greenfield.563225. That is completely bogus.

Search



# Blaine Greenfield

@Blaine.greenfield.563225

Blaine Greenfield is a CEO (Chief Encouragement officer) who hosts a podcast & Publishers a blog.

Respond

Message

B. If you did friend me, you then might have received a bullshit chat message that mentioned Publishers Clearing House. It might have looked like this. The person who set up this account is trying to engage you into giving him or her more information about you.



**Blaine Greenfield**



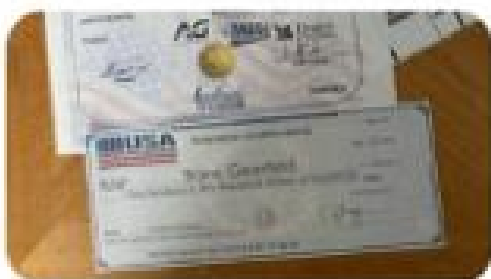
No it's not a hacked account.

MON 2:47 PM



So far, so good. Above the grass, thankfully. Glad to hear from you and did you also receive a notification letter yet on your mailbox from the PCH Publishers clearing house?

MON 7:13 PM



Have you received yours?



C. If you friended me at this account (that I'll call the black shirt account), unfriend me. And report this to Facebook. Delete any messages you may have received from this account and report them to Facebook.

To find out how to report this to Facebook, click: [Here](#).

D. The good news for me at least: I have not been hacked. What happened was that somebody attempted to create a new account, using my name and some of my pictures, to dupe people on my friends list.

Note: The scary thing is that this could happen to you, too. That is why I am encouraging you to find out what happened to me. And to read more about it, so that it doesn't also happen to you.

E. Here is my legitimate Facebook account (that I'll call my blue jacket account).



F. You'll know it is legitimate because you'll see this address at the status bar at top: [www.facebook.com/blainegreenfield/](https://www.facebook.com/blainegreenfield/). It can also be seen if you run your mouse over the cover photo of Cynthia and me.

<https://www.facebook.com/blainegreenfield/>

## 2. How to prevent this from happening to you

A. Don't accept a Facebook friend request from somebody who is already your Facebook friend. If you are not sure if it is legitimate, ask the person directly by email. Or send a message to the person at the account where you already show as his or her friend.

B. Don't accept any friend requests from people you don't know. What I do: If I get a request from a person I don't know, I ask: How'd you hear about me? Most of the time I never even get a response. Or I'll get a response to the effect that Facebook suggested we might want to become friends. I very rarely accept requests from folks I don't personally know.

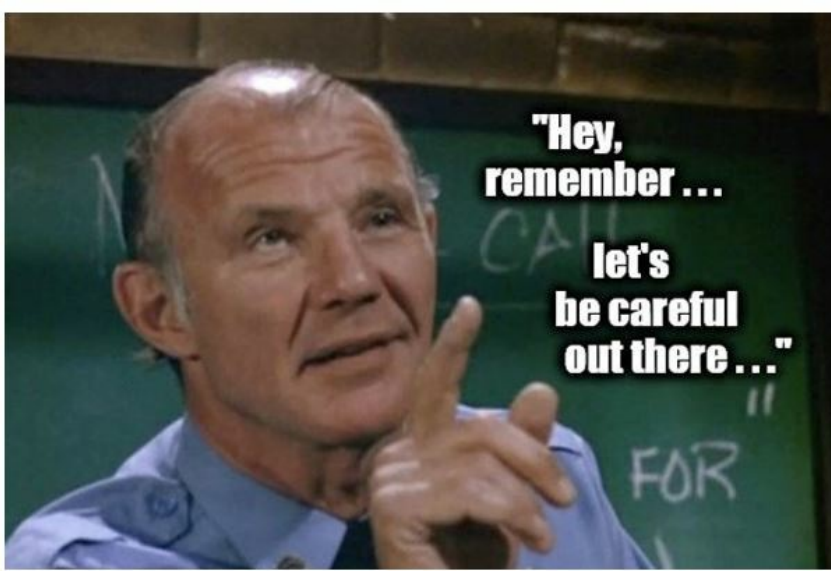
C. Perhaps most importantly: Change the settings on who can make you a friend. My recommendation is to NEVER allow anyone to have this option. For more information on this subject, click: [Here](#).

D. As a result of what happened to me, I no longer let everybody see who is on my Friends list. If you also want to make such an adjustment, click here to find out how to do so: [Here](#).

Note: When you think about it, there is no reason for the world to have this information. And that apparently is what happened when somebody got into my black shirt Facebook account; i.e., they could see the names of all my friends.

E. If you get a message that sounds suspicious, contact the person who sent it to you; e.g., via email or his/her legitimate Facebook account. As you probably know by now, there are an amazing amount of bogus chat messages being sent out.

F. Please keep in mind the immortal words of Sergeant Phil Esterhaus (Michael Conrad) from the HILL STREET BLUES show.



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### 3. Article you'll want to read

It has lots of useful information about some of the above topics--and more, too. To read it, click:

<https://www.techlicious.com/tip/facebook-account-cloning/>.

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### 4. For additional help

A. Your best bet is usually via email: [bginbc@aol.com](mailto:bginbc@aol.com). If you write me, please put something in the subject line that tells me why you are writing; e.g., question about Facebook problem.

B. For more specific Facebook and/or other technical help, consider using the services of my friend Danny Brice. He helped me with this Facebook problem, and he is the BEST! He can be reached at: [Daniel@danielbrice.com](mailto:Daniel@danielbrice.com).

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**PS. Enjoy the rest of your week. I'll see you again on Sunday with BLAINESWORLD #1425.**

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