

Neighborhood Watch Crime Bulletin To All Our Neighborhood Watch Personnel:

Our Latest and Greatest Crime Bulletin



RECENT INTERNET SCAMS IN OCEAN PINES:

We have experienced a series of internet scams in which the victim receives a telephone call from a foreign sounding man who states he is from Apple Computer or another computer company. The suspect then states to the victim that he has detected someone trying to hack into the victim's computer. To alleviate this problem and to prevent the hacking, the suspect then states it will require a payment to fix the computer problem. The suspect then tells the victim to get a GIFT CARD in payment (to avoid detection) and send him the picture of the gift card, or type the number of the gift card into the computer.

Of course, this thief then takes the money and vanishes. No computer work is done, nor was there any computer problem in the first place.

We have also had the scam of the phone call to a grandparent alleging a grandson or granddaughter is in custody and needs bail money. The suspect says to WIRE the money (to avoid detection) to him so the child can go free.

Finally, we continue to hear the scam of the fake Internal Revenue Scam, in which a phone call from a suspect alleging to be from the IRS demands payment for a fictitious tax problem.

TELEPHONE SOLICITATION FOR PUBLIC SAFETY:

When someone telephones you alleging they are fundraising for the police or fire, what should you do?? This type of fundraising often diverts a large portion of your "donation" to the telephone marketing company, and not public safety. If you wish to contribute, I would suggest you directly contribute to LOCAL fundraising, where you can demand accountability for your donation. In one so-called public safety telephone solicitation, I determined that **90 percent** of the donation went to the marketing company.

Take a bite out of crime. Join Neighborhood Watch

Chief David C. Massey, Ed.D.

Ocean Pines Police Department