

Nassau County



Police Department

EDWARD P. MANGANO
COUNTY EXECUTIVE

1490 Franklin Avenue
Mineola, New York 11501
(516) 573-8800

THOMAS V. DALE
COMMISSIONER

Second Precinct
7700 Jericho Turnpike
Woodbury, New York 11797

August 28, 2013

Re: Community Advisory
Telephone Scams

The Second Precinct has been receiving an increase in calls from our residents who have been victimized by telephone scams. This community advisory is being provided to residents to make them aware of these ongoing telephone scams. The telephone scams take various forms such as:

1. The victim owes back taxes or has an unpaid utility bill and if it is not paid right away, the victim's bank account will be frozen, a lien will be put on their accounts or home, or they will be arrested.
2. The victim's grandchild needs money to be bailed out of jail.
3. The victim's relative was involved in a bad accident and needs money.
4. The victim's relative is stranded in a foreign country.

The victim is then directed to wire money in order to pay off the bills or help a family member. Many times the victim will wire the money because the caller sounds convincing due to the fact that the caller has some basic information about the victim or relative. Once the money is wired and paid at the other end, the victim's money is lost and will not be returned. Some victims have lost significant amounts of money in these scams.

If you receive a phone call of this nature, make sure you verify the identity of the person calling. Prior to sending any money, contact the relative that is in trouble or another family member who should know the whereabouts of the relative that may be in trouble in order to verify the caller's information. If you are not sure of the validity of the caller, please call 911 in order that we may send a police officer to assist you.

If you have any questions about this advisory or telephone scams in general, please do not hesitate to contact the Second Precinct Problem Oriented Police Office at 573-6870.