



CLATSOP COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

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Fraud

Examples of scams:

Example 1 - We have all heard of the scam calls people get with someone saying they are Police Officer "so and so" or Deputy "so and so" asking for money. They will say you have an outstanding warrant for your arrest and you need to send them money or you will be arrested. **THIS IS A SCAM.** No Sheriff's Office or Police Department will call you requesting money. Also, they will not threaten to arrest you if you don't give them money.

Example 2 - A Police Officer or Sheriff's Deputy calls saying they arrested your niece or nephew in another state and need you to send them bail money. **THIS IS A SCAM.** No Police Officer or Sheriff's Deputy would call you requesting you send bail money for someone. If someone gets arrested and there is a bail set, they have access to jail phones to call whoever they want to request bail money.

Example 3 - This example was a call received by a relative. The female voice on the phone sounded like she was disoriented. The female claimed to be my relative's daughter. The female told my relative she was arrested after a car accident, because they found Nyquil in her system. The female told my relative she needed \$120,000 in cash for her bail. The female handed the phone over to her male attorney, who proceeded to give my relative directions on what to do with the \$120,000 in cash. Additionally, the male attorney told my relative not

to tell anyone. My relative hung up the phone and called her daughter, who was not in an accident and was at work. **THIS WAS A SCAM!**

Tips to avoid being scammed:

If you receive a call from someone wanting money from you and you are concerned it might not be a legit billing agency or debt collection agency, hang up. Call your local law enforcement agency and run it by them.

If you have access to an internet search engine (i.e. Google, Internet Explorer, Firefox) look up the phone number of the person who is calling you. If the number is legit and actually linked to a bank or company you are receiving services from the number will show online.

What to do if you accidentally fall victim to a scam:

1. Contact local law enforcement through non-emergency dispatch to make a police report. You will likely need the police report for contacting your bank. Clatsop County non-emergency dispatch phone number is 503-325-2061, press 1 to speak with a dispatcher.
2. Contact your bank and inform them of the scam. They will most likely request a case number from your police report and will assist you in flagging your account or accounts.
3. Check with the three major credit bureaus, Equifax, Experian, and TransUnion, to see if new lines of credit have shown up or if someone is using your identity to make purchases.

You can report identity theft to the Federal Trade Commission online at IdentityTheft.gov or by phone at 1-877-438-4338.