

gwinnettcounty **Police Department**

770 Hi-Hope Road • Lawrenceville, GA 30043-4540
P.O. Box 602 • Lawrenceville, GA 30046-0602
770.513.5000 • www.gwinnettcounty.com



SCAMS SCAMS SCAMS

Scams, what are scams? By definition, a scam is a dishonest scheme. It is a type of fraud. Scammers will typically attempt to get you to send them money by calling you over the phone. When a scammer calls they will typically say you owe money, and if you do not pay the amount you will face going to jail, losing your license get deported or some sort of consequence. They will also be very demanding and request large amounts of money at once. Sometimes they will call you and advise they are a representative for your bank's fraud department, and have noticed suspicious activities. Ultimately they will attempt to get you to provide your card number, expiration date and 3 digit security code on the card to "confirm" you have it in your possession. Then they advise if you notice any additional activity on the card, disregard it, it is being handled by the fraud department. Another common scam is, you have a loved one, child and/or grandchild who is being held until their debt is paid for. They may say things like, don't call the police or they will be hurt. Some scammers may tell you, you have won the lottery in another country. They will say the lottery ticket you played in the state you are in, was entered into an international draft, and your ticket is the winning ticket. This is a popular scam. They will ask you to send a large amount of money to receive the lottery money. Playing the lottery from another country is illegal. All of these are scams. Hang up the phone if they cannot provide you with the appropriate information to determine if they are a real collection agency, or business attempting to reward you with money you have legitimately earned. There are several scams out there to be aware of, and there are small things you can do to determine it is a scam, and avoid becoming a victim.

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To avoid being a victim of a scam, ask the caller for their name and a call back number, if they are a legitimate business they will provide you with that information, allowing you to follow up with them when you have an opportunity to do so. Do not pay the money immediately (especially if you are in doubt) if you are unsure if the person you are talking about is a part of a real business; do not provide them with personal information (debit/credit card numbers, social security numbers, address etc.). If the person on the other line is aggressive, or saying you need to pay the money immediately or the local police department is going come arrest you, it is okay to hang up the phone. You can contact the local police department, and they will advise you.

For in additional questions regarding scams you can contact Officer Greene at trent.greene@gwinnettcounty.com.