

SCAM ALERT

FROM

LT. JILLIAN CABANA OF THE WESTPORT POLICE

Y's Men,

I want to advise you of a new scam we are starting to see more frequently. As usual, this scam starts with an email.

Included in the greeting is the recipient's full name and home address (occasionally accompanied by a Google Earth photo of the street). This information, unfortunately, is often readily available online.

The scammer then tells the victim (target) that they had placed malware on some "adult" websites and now know what the target has been watching. Some of the scammers tell the target they accessed the target's device and were able to remotely access their camera and mic.

They claim to have also accessed the target's emails, contacts, and social media accounts.

They claim to have saved the videos and screenshots of the target and threaten to expose them and/or the websites visited unless payment is made.

Lately, the scammers have been asking for cryptocurrency to be sent, and provide the crypto wallet address. One particular line was, "Your filthy secret remains your secret. I will wipe everything clean once you come through with the payment."

In these instances, the victim's email and information was most likely found on the dark web. Personal information is often bought and sold there, but also amongst companies who collect information from business rewards programs, etc.

Anyone who receives an email such as this should recognize it as a scam and not send funds. They should block the sender, and change their email password.

Please report any scam attempts you receive to the Westport Police.

Sincerely,

Jillian Cabana
Lieutenant
Westport Police Department