



Matthew M. Clancy
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Press Release

For Immediate Release
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Police Issue Fraud Warning

In the past 72 hours, the Duxbury Police Department has been notified of three attempted fraud cases within the community. Each case is under investigation with the Duxbury Police Criminal Investigations Bureau. Each of the scams was received by telephone to local residents. One such incident has become a fairly common scam in which a couple received an early morning call from an individual identifying themselves as a police officer (in this case from Canada), informing the residents that a relative was being held under arrest in Canada. The caller suggested that the relative needed several thousand dollars wired to Canada to secure the individual's release on bail. Initially these intended victims complied, but the transfer was flagged as potentially fraudulent by Western Union. Duxbury police detectives working in cooperation with Western Union continue to investigate and have recovered the victim's funds. Other variations of this scam have included the call being placed by the alleged arrestee who claimed to be a distant relative of the intended victim. These scams are typically targeting senior citizens.

In a second reported scam, a Duxbury resident receive an automated telephone message that indicated the call was from Rockland Federal Credit Union allegedly notifying the intended victim that their debit card account had been compromised and directing the victim to secure a new security code. The phone number left was tracked back to North Dakota and investigators of the Duxbury Police Criminal Investigations Bureau continue to track the origin of the call. From the outset, representatives from the Rockland Federal Credit Union have informed the Duxbury police that this call did not originate from their business and that the intended victim's accounts did not appear to have been compromised in any way.

Officers are actively collecting information on the third fraud attempt from this past weekend. In any case, we strongly urge residents to be reasonably suspicious of such calls and to take every step possible to verify the authenticity of such calls. These verifications can be done quite easily by directly contacting your bank or credit card company at phone numbers supplied on your monthly statements. In the case of the bail scam, residents should feel free to contact their local police department who would be happy to assist in verifying the alleged arrest and detainment of a relative.

End of Release

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