



Kronenwetter Police Department

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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DATE: 04/22/15

PRESS RELEASE

The Kronenwetter Police Department would once again like to remind village residents of frauds that continue to occur across the country, including Wisconsin. These frauds generally stem from unsolicited contact with the victim either through phone calls, the U.S. mail or via e-mails.

Recently, a suspect contacted a local victim and claimed they were part of a refund company that could assist the victim recover a large amount of money they lost in a previous fraud. The victim provided their banking account information to the suspect, at which time the suspect made several large deposits of money into the victim's bank account. The suspect then asked the victim to send a large portion of that money back to the company in India via MoneyGram.

It was later determined the money deposited into the victim's account had actually been hacked from an account at a different bank and deposited into the victim's local account. Regrettably, the victim is now responsible for paying back several thousand dollars. Scam artists frequently give the victim a large amount of money, often in the form of a fraudulent check, and then ask the victim to send a portion of that money back.

The Kronenwetter Police Department suggests the following tips:

- Delete e-mails with an unfamiliar address and never open any link unless you are positive it is from a safe and familiar sender.
- Never provide personal or financial information to anyone who makes an unsolicited call to you and poses as a representative of a legitimate agency or institution. Employees of legitimate institutions will never call someone unsolicited and demand personal or financial information.
- Be cautious and research any company or person before doing business with them. Look for independent sources of information in order to verify the credentials of a company or individual.
- Do not allow anyone to rush you into making a decision. Take your time and if you are in doubt, contact your local law enforcement agency and they can advise if the situation is a probable fraud.
- Be extra cautious if the person sends you money and requests you to send a vast majority of it back to them via MoneyGram, Western Union, MoneyPak or a similar type service. *Never* accept a questionable check or bank deposit and then send the caller a portion of that money back.
- If you were the victim of a scam involving Microsoft in the past few years, be extra cautious about any calls from a refund company offering assistance.
- Remember the old adage, "If it sounds too good to be true, it probably is."



"Community Focused, People First"

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