

SCAM ALERT!

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY POLICE DEPARTMENT

Top 5 Phone and Internet Scams

How to Identify Them and Protect Yourself



1 Grandparent Scam - Caller pretends to be grandchild who has been arrested and needs bail money.

Hang Up! It's a scam.

- If you are concerned, call your family member.



2 Publisher's Clearinghouse Scam - You've won millions, but have to pay taxes first. **Hang Up!** It's a scam.

- Publisher Clearinghouse will NEVER notify a winner over the phone or tell them to make a payment to receive their prize.



3 Arrest Warrant Scam - If you receive a text or voice mail requesting you to call your local Police Department or Sheriff's Department because you have a warrant out for your arrest for missing jury duty. **Hang Up!** It's a scam.

- The Police and Sheriff will NOT solicit money to resolve an arrest warrant.
- If you are concerned that you may have a warrant for your arrest, call the Prince George's County Sheriff's Office at 301-780-8600.



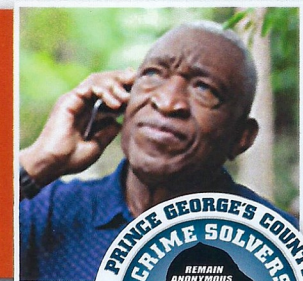
4 Romance Scam - Scammer makes contact on dating sites, social media or email. They gain a rapport, then eventually have an emergency and need money.

- NEVER send money to someone you've only communicated with on-line or over the phone.



5 You Owe Taxes Scam - Caller identifies themselves as an Internal Revenue Service (IRS) Agent, tells you that you owe back taxes and to pay immediately!

- The IRS states they do NOT "initiate contact with taxpayers by email, text message or social media to request personal or financial information."
- The IRS will NOT direct you to mail cash, wire money or purchase gift cards for payment.



If you become a victim of a financial scam, report it to Police at (301) 352-1200

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY POLICE DEPARTMENT
FINANCIAL CRIMES UNIT

