



FAIRBANKS POLICE DEPARTMENT

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PRESS RELEASE

Date: January 28, 2008

Time: 1100 hours

Incident Title: Bank Fraud/Scam

The Fairbanks Police Department would like to warn the general public to be "on their guard" against fraudulent scams that may be surfacing in the Fairbanks area.


Several Fairbanks residents received automated phone calls this morning (1-28-08) at approximately 0100 hours advising them that their bank accounts had been suspended or frozen and to contact their security department. The number given in these cases was (334)239-3905 and was determined to be disconnected or not in service. The public should be wary of anyone calling representing themselves as a company and requesting they call another number. In cases like this, personal information can be obtained and used for unauthorized purchases.

"There are several types of scams that typically surface throughout the year, and this is just the latest", stated Lt. Dan Welborn of FPD.

The most well known scam to the law enforcement community is the "Nigerian Scam" in which a "so called" wealthy foreigner who needs help moving millions of dollars from his homeland promises a hefty percentage of this fortune as a reward for assisting him. This is real fraud that can cost victims anywhere from a few thousand dollars up to hundreds of thousands. "If something looks or sounds too good to be true----it usually is", stated Welborn.

Other scams to be on the lookout for are emails, typically called "Phishing", sent out from what is believed to be a trusted source, such as a financial institution, but are actually designed to trick you into downloading a virus, or directing you to a website that asks you to disclose sensitive personal information.

If you think you may have been a victim or you are suspicious about a transaction, please contact your financial institution immediately.

App: 
CC Mayor Strle
Press Board