



OFFICE OF THE SHERIFF

Lake County, Illinois

JOHN D. IDLEBURG
SHERIFF

25 S. Martin Luther King Jr. Ave.
Waukegan, Illinois 60085
Phone: (847) 377-4000
Fax: (847) 360-5796

**EMERGENCY
DIAL 911**

Community Policing
Working Together to Keep Lake County Safe!
Telephone Scams

DIVISIONS

Civil Process
(847) 377-4400

Communications
(847) 549-5200

**Community
Service**
(847) 377-4211

Court Security
(847) 377-4911

**Criminal
Investigations**
(847) 377-4250

**Emergency
Management
Agency**
(847) 377-7100

Highway Patrol
(847) 377-7020

Jail
(847) 377-4150

Judicial Sales
(847) 377-4401

Marine Unit
(847) 587-4471

Records
(847) 377-4200

Training
(847) 377-4350

Warrants
(847) 377-4300

Work Release
(847) 377-4450

Grandparent Scams: Scammers contact victims claiming to be a grandchild in some sort of trouble. They ask the grandparent to send money and not to tell anyone.

IRS or U.S. Treasury Scams: Scammers contact victims claiming to be an IRS agent and threatening to have victims arrested, deported or revocation of business and/or driver's license, if immediate payment is not made.

Property Tax Scams: Scammers send letters in the mail claiming the County will take victims homes if they don't pay the delinquent taxes on their property. In each Lake County case seen so far, the homeowner is paid in full and NOT delinquent on their taxes. If you receive one of these letters, you do not need to take any action if your taxes are paid in full. If you have any questions or want to check the status of your payment, you should call the Treasurer's Office at 847.377.2323 or check on line at www.lakecountyil.gov/treasurer. DO NOT contact the person listed on the letter.

Jury Arrest Warrant Scams: Scammers contact victims advising victims they missed scheduled jury duty and a judge issued an arrest warrant. *Scammers have even named judges sitting in the 23rd Circuit Court.* Scammers claim to be "Captain Allen" and direct victims to obtain prepaid credit cards, call back and read the numbers off the prepaid credit cards to "settle" the warrant.

Warrant Scams: Scammers contact victims claiming an outstanding warrant for parking or driving violations is issued and must be paid immediately over the phone or an arrest is imminent.

FOP Scams: Scammers contact victims claiming to be from the Lake County Sheriff's Office Fraternal Order of Police. Any attempt made to solicit funds via telephone, mail or in person by anyone identifying themselves as a representative of the Lake County Sheriff's Office should not be considered legitimate.

Bereavement Scams: Scammers scour the obituaries and contact victims who recently lost a loved-one claiming the deceased had unpaid bills or debts that must be paid right away.

Sweetheart Scams: The scammer befriends the victim online or in person and expresses romantic interest. While romancing the victim and earning their trust, the scammer may gain access to personal and financial information. Sometimes the scammer will ask the victim for emergency loans to pay off a bill or their rent. When the scam is over, the victim is left broke and broken-hearted.

SEE TIPS BELOW

Community Policing
Working Together to *Keep Lake County Safe!*
Telephone Scams

TIPS:

- Never wire money to anyone unless you have confirmed their identity.
- Have the cell phone numbers of all your children and grandchildren on file.
- Never provide social security numbers, credit card or banking information over the phone.
- Arrange to have a trusted family member or friend handle financial matter in the days following the loss of a loved one.
- Keep your personal and financial documents locked at home in a safe place or in a bank deposit box – do not share them or carry them with you.
- Avoid lending money. If someone becomes angry – they may not have your best interest at heart.



www.lakecountyil.gov/sheriff

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