



CRIME PREVENTION TIP SHEET



This month's crime tip is a review of some of the techniques that are used by crafty criminals to take your money. Some of these techniques are probably familiar to some of you but you would be surprised at how many people fall for them. If you have fallen for these scams, keep in mind that you are the victim of some very convincing individuals who know what hot buttons to push for most people. They appeal to your wants and needs which they can learn from you in the first few minutes of a conversation.

They appeal to you by saying they will help you make money and you may have enough. But who wouldn't want some extra money to leave for the children or grandchildren, and after all who has enough money? They will tell you they need help for fallen firemen and police, a worthy cause. They are lying to you since they have no plans to help anyone except themselves. Keep an eye out for these common scams:

Nigerian letter- I need help getting money out of my foreign home country and if you help me I will give you half of my millions.

Bank auditors- I am investigating a bank employee and I need you to deposit some money in your account and then give me the transaction records so I can check on this employees honesty.

Lottery/ Prize awards- The State of Florida will not require you to pay anything prior to winning any prize and there is no law that governs that process. The IRS may require you to pay taxes, but not until you have collected your prize. If someone tells you that you won a lottery, ask yourself if you bought a ticket or entered into a drawing. These individuals are out to get whatever they can from you and they will if you let them.

There are many scams and we would be happy to discuss any of them with you if you call our Crime Prevention Unit at 305-466-8962 and speak with us about it. If someone calls and says they are calling on behalf of the Aventura Police to solicit money they are not being truthful. Our Police Chief says that the Aventura Police will never solicit money over the phone. Hang up and report these types of calls to Crime Prevention at the above number. Have a great crime-free month and remember that an educated city is a crime resistant city.