

January 08, 2013

News Release

For Immediate Release

Police Warn of Scam Targeting Elderly

The Springfield Police Department received a report today of an elderly female falling victim to a scam and losing a large sum of money. The victim was contacted by a white male and a black female, who briefly displayed a badge of some sort and claimed they were detectives from another jurisdiction. They told the victim they had made arrests in St. Louis of suspects involved in a stealing case the victim had reported last year. They then asked her assistance with a case they claimed to be working involving the victim's bank. They asked her to withdraw a sum of money because they believed the bank was dispersing counterfeit money. The victim went to her bank, withdrew the money, and met the suspects on a parking lot. The male suspect took the money, looked at it, and told her the bills were counterfeit. He then asked her to return home and said he would contact her after an arrest was made at the bank. The male did not return to her home, so the victim called the police.

The suspects in this case are described as follows:

Suspect 1

White male, "middle-aged", 5'8" with a heavy build, dark brown or black hair, wearing a black suit

Suspect 2

Black female, unknown age, 5'8' with a slender build and shoulder-length black hair, wearing a dark two-piece suit and driving a newer car that is light olive in color

The SPD is encouraging anyone who comes in contact with persons claiming to be detectives to closely examine their badge and credentials. Citizens can also contact the SPD at 864-1810 to confirm the employment of someone claiming to be a Springfield police officer.

SPD Case Number: 13-00920

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Release authorized by: Lt Kevin Grizzell