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News Release

For Immediate Release

Police Warn of Prison Scam

Recently, officers have been contacted regarding incidents in the city where the elderly are contacted regarding a family member who has been "confined" in another location while on a trip to that country. The countries listed have included Mexico and Spain and the contacts have told family members that a loved one was in jail for various offenses and needed money sent to them via Western Union to release them from jail.

The contacts have used family names creating some sense of credibility, however any further contact information has come back invalid.

The SPD would like to warn the general public, but specifically the elderly, who seem to be the targets of this scam to not send any money to outside sources claiming to be an official from another police department or other entity conducting business in that country. If contacted, make every effort to confirm with other family members the validity of the claim and phone the police department at 864-1810 to file a report.

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