



Douglas Police Department

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Chief

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PUBLIC NOTICE

FRAUD ALERT

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Douglas residents should be aware of recent fraudulent calls in the Douglas community intended to extract large sums of money from victims. In late June 2023, Officer Reyes of the Douglas Police Department was dispatched to a fraud complaint in Douglas. After meeting with the victim, the Douglas Police Department determined that fraud had occurred.

A victim was contacted by a person claiming to be an attorney stating that a family member was jailed after a serious car accident. The "attorney" went on to describe that the family member had been arrested and needed bond money. After speaking with the "attorney" for some time, the victim retrieved a large amount of money from their bank and was told a courier would pick up the money. A courier showed up to the victim's residence a short time later and the money was turned over to them. The courier advised that a gag order was in place and the victim should not disclose information about the transaction. The courier left on foot. The victim received a follow-up call from someone claiming to be the family member; however, it was someone posing as the family member. The follow up call could have been an attempt to avoid reporting the fraud.

If you receive any calls claiming funds are needed, do not give them any money. Immediately contact the Douglas Police Department or 911 to report the call. An attorney or police officer will never contact you asking for cash, gift cards, Western Union transactions, or any forms of monetary payment to pay bonds, warrants, or lawyer fees. There will never be a gag order put in place. If someone is claiming to be your relative that is in trouble, contact that person to verify, or contact the local police department. Do not give out any banking or credit card information over the phone.