

Onondaga County Sheriff's Office News

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Sheriff



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Sheriff's Office Warns Public of Recurring Scam

Onondaga County, New York- The Onondaga County Sheriff's Office wants to warn the public about a recurring telephone scam involving suspects claiming they are employed with the Onondaga County Sheriff's Office.

This recurring scam involves a suspect calling the public on the telephone stating they are a Deputy or Supervisor with the Onondaga County Sheriff's Office. The suspect informs the citizen that they have a warrant for their arrest and directs them to make a payment electronically. The caller will then ask the citizen to either drive to a financial institution or provide a credit card number to clear up their fines to avoid being arrested. The Onondaga County Sheriff's Office, along with other local police agencies never solicits or makes these types of phone calls, requesting money. If a citizen receives a telephone call involving this type of scam, do not provide any personal information, credit card number, or any type of "MoneyPak" number to the suspect.

The Sheriff's Office is offering these tips:

- Do not provide information over the phone. Scammers often ask leading questions to retrieve information. Often, you do not realize that you are giving them valuable information.
- Scammers create a sense of urgency. Ask the caller for detailed information and a contact number. Tell the caller you will call them back. Then attempt to verify the caller's story by calling the business and or a family member.
- Remember that scammers often use a technique called "spoofing." Spoofing provides a fictitious number to a Caller ID display.
- Do not send money.
- Most importantly, contact police immediately if you believe you are a victim of a telephone scam.

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