

Sheriff



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SCAM ALERT



An elderly Crestview man was the attempted target of a scam involving a false prize claim. He was initially contacted by mail by the scammers and was told that he had won a grand prize of 3.5 million dollars and would be contacted soon for further instructions. On 02/09/12, he was contacted by a subject claiming to be “David Miller” via telephone number (304)843-8269. The subject claimed to be at the Kentucky Fried Chicken in Crestview. He further stated that he had the 3.5 million dollars prize package with him plus a bonus prize of a brand new white Mercedes Benz.

The subject instructed the man to go to the Crestview CVS store and purchase two “Money Pack Cards”. One card was to be purchased for the amount of \$500 and the other for \$300. Once the cards were purchased and he returned home, the Crestview resident was to contact the subject at the number provided.

An Okaloosa Sheriff’s Investigator responded to the man’s home and advised him not to purchase the cards because the subject was probably not actually in Crestview at all. He was further advised that it is common for scammers to have victims purchase the money pack cards and then provide them with the numbers on the cards. Once the numbers have been provided, the scammers obtain access to the money on the card.

The man contacted the scammer and advised him they had purchased the money pack cards as requested. The Investigator was able to overhear the conversation and verified the scammer had a very distinct Nigerian accent. The scammer then requested to have the numbers on the money pack cards at which time he was told to come to the means’s home in order to complete the transaction.

At that point, the scammer became somewhat irate and began yelling at the man to provide the card number. He told them he would lose his job if they did not give him the numbers.

The scammer then told the man he would call them back from another telephone in a few minutes due to supposedly not being able to hear the conversation.

When he called back, he told the man that he was at the BP Station across from KFC. He told them he was trying to prove to them that he was really in town. An OCSO supervisor drove to the BP Station. He then verified that no one was at the store and the scammer promptly terminated the phone call.

If you are the victim of a suspected scam, contact the OCSO Fraud Hotline at 850-651-7674.

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