CONSUMER PROTECTION INFORMATION

The Okaloosa County Sheriff’s Office wants to remind residents about an old but effective scam that is still taking place against unsuspecting buyers. Investigators say a complainant came to the North District Office in Crestview and stated the following:

Her son posted tires for sale on Craigslist. They received a response from an individual in Connecticut who wanted to purchase the tires. The subject in Conn. wanted the tires shipped elsewhere and sent them a check for $3,400 over the purchase amount and directed the seller to Western Union the $3,000 to a friend that is supposed to receive the tires. In turn, they would get $400.00 for their trouble and shipping fee.

If it sounds too good to be true, it usually is. Basically in these situations, the check is no good and by the time the bank discovers it, the victim has already sent the money and the bank has taken the funds out of the victim's account.

To report scams or frauds, contact the OCSO Fraud Hotline at 850-651-7674.

###