

CRIME ALERT ANN ARBOR POLICE DEPARTMENT



Jim Baird Interim Chief of Police 48104 301 E. Huron Street Ann Arbor MI

Website: www.a2gov.org

OUTSTANDING WARRANTS SCAM

Detectives are investigating a phone solicitation scam where the caller identified themselves as being from the Ann Arbor Police Department telling the victim that they have outstanding warrants from the United State Customs and Immigrations. The caller told the victim to go directly to AAPD and get arrested or pay nearly \$3000. The \$3000 was to be used to pay fines associated with the warrants. The victim never contacted AAPD to verify any of this information. The victim decided to pay a fine over the telephone.

The caller told the victim to purchase I Tunes cards from various retail establishments in the Ann Arbor area. Once the card was purchased, the victim was told to provide the caller with the scratch off PIN number off the back of the I Tunes card. In this case, the victim made purchases of \$1500. The victim attempted to make several additional purchases and was unsuccessful. The original caller hung up on the victim when no additional cards were purchased. The victim then contacted AAPD.

In this phone scam the caller ID listed on the victim's phone was that of the Washtenaw County Central dispatch center. This is a level of sophistication that we have not encountered. AAPD is encouraging the public to be leary of any law enforcement agency who contacts you under this context. AAPD would not arrange for anyone wanted on outstanding arrests warrants the opportunity to pay the fine with a credit card over the telephone in lieu of being arrested.

The AAPD encourages anyone who receives a similar call to immediately hang up, call your local police department and certainly do not release financial information over the telephone.

Ann Arbor Police Department TIP line: 734.794.6939 Email: TIPS@a2gov.org