



## **Bryan Police Department**

### **Police Department Contact**

Officer Jon Agnew  
979-209-5350  
[jagnew@bryantx.gov](mailto:jagnew@bryantx.gov)

### **News Release**

Date: August 30, 2011



## **College Station Police Department**

### **Police Department Contact**

Officer Rhonda Seaton  
979-764-3591  
[rseaton@cstx.gov](mailto:rseaton@cstx.gov)

The College Station and Bryan Police Department have recently been receiving reports from citizens about strange phone calls demanding money. These phone calls appear to be scams and the caller uses threatening tactics to trick the victim into sending them money. Here are some of the tactics that have been used to threaten unsuspecting victims if they don't send money:

- Claim that you have an outstanding debt
- Claim that they will ruin your credit score
- Claim they will file a civil suit against you
- Claim they will get Law Enforcement involved to issue a warrant of arrest
- Ask you to give your credit card or account info over the phone
- Ask you to send money in the form of a gift card for a business
- Call from a "false" or "counterfeit" phone number and appear to be a legitimate organization, when in fact they are not

We want you to be aware of this recent telephone scam. Here are some safety tips to think about if you receive a strange phone call:

- A law enforcement agency will **never** call you over the phone and demand you pay money to avoid an arrest.
- Never provide personal information or banking information over the phone
- If you don't think it is a legitimate phone call, disconnect immediately
- If you think the call is legitimate, get the caller's name, business name, business address, and phone number. Then independently verify the

information and if the caller is legitimate, make arrangements to make the payment via a secure method.

- o Do not use a website or a link provided to you by the caller to verify information. False websites are easy to set up and frequently used by scammers.

The safety of our community does not have borders. It is the goal of every law enforcement agency to protect the citizens that we serve. Be the eyes and ears of your police department. When you see suspicious activity contact the Bryan Police Department or the Brazos County Sheriff's Department at 979-361-3888; contact the College Station Police Department at 979-764-3600. Together we can make a difference in our community. Hear It - See It - Report It