

STOP! BEFORE YOU SEND MONEY, PLEASE READ THIS NOTICE!



The Appleton Police Department asks that you consider the following before agreeing to send money:

- ***Never send money to a stranger using a money transfer service.*** While a charge made against a credit card can be disputed, and a check can have a non-payment order issued against it, wiring money is sending cash. Once it's sent, it is gone forever.
- *If you receive a phone call from a business or government agency, asking you to pay a bill or fee over the phone via a prepaid credit card, **IT IS A FRAUD!***
- **Beware of deals or opportunities that seem too good to be true.**
- **Don't use money transfer services to pay for things like online auction purchases, or for taxes or fees on foreign lottery winnings.**
- If you received a check in the mail, then deposited that check, and you are using those funds to wire money, **please remember this - just because your bank or credit union accepted the check, does not mean that it is authentic.** It can take up to a week or longer for a financial institution to determine whether a check is good. If the check bounces after you wire the money, you will be liable for the fake check. **YOUR BANK WILL NOT COVER YOUR LOSSES** should you fall victim to one of these scams.

There have been incidents of fraud occurring in our area. There are many variations of this con, including employment as a secret shopper, overseas lottery winners, family members involved in a car accident/arrested in another country, inherited money and many others. They can come in the form of a phone call or via the mail. They all generally involve wiring money to someone you do not personally know.

The incidents of fraud typically costs its victims between \$500 and \$6000. If you have any concerns about the legitimacy of your transaction, please call the Appleton Police Department at 920-832-5500 and ask to speak to an officer.