

Cary Police Department

Patrick M. Finlon, Chief of Police



Media Release

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Incident: Recent Scams
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Case Numbers: Multiple

In the past two months the Cary Police Department has received several reports from victims of various scams. In each incident, the victim(s) were impacted financially. Due to this recent activity, the Cary Police Department wishes to remind residents of the importance of remaining vigilant while monitoring their personal finances, as well as remaining guarded to “fast cash” scenarios that typically seem too good to be true.

One scam offered a victim compensation for acting as a secret shopper. The victim received a check and was instructed to purchase gift cards with a portion of the money. The victim was instructed to send the gift card access codes via email, and in exchange they could keep the remainder of the balance of the check. Once the check was deposited into the victim’s account, it was determined the check was fraudulent and the victim lost the money he used to purchase the gift cards.

Another incident involved a victim receiving an email which appeared to be a legitimate correspondence from an organization they were conducting business with. The email advised the victim there was a change in payment terms and instructed the victim to wire the funds instead of having a cashier’s check drafted. The email was fraudulent, and the funds were received by an unknown third party.

Other scams have involved the victim’s credit card and/or checking account information being compromised. To avoid becoming a victim, regularly monitor your credit card activity and bank accounts.

Information regarding common scams can be found at the Illinois Attorney General’s website at www.illinoisattorneygeneral.gov, and also on the Federal Trade Commission’s website at www.consumer.ftc.gov.

The Cary Police Department’s Investigations Section is able to answer questions and can be reached at (847) 639-2341.