
LANE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

NEWS RELEASE



Scammers Posing as Companies You Do Business With

The Lane County Sheriff's Office has received reports that community members have received calls from someone identifying themselves as their insurance provider or their satellite network provider. The scammers ask the community member several questions in effort to help "clear up an issue" with their account. Callers so far have recognized the call as a scam, but some have provided information that may put them at risk for identity theft.

As a reminder, do not provide your personal information to companies who have called you unsolicited. Personal information includes full name, maiden name, birthdate, social security number (in full or in part), address, banking institution, bank account numbers, credit card numbers, or names and information of loved ones.

Signs that a call is a scam include threats of harm or arrest if you don't comply with a monetary transaction, demands for money in the form of gift cards or un-trackable "money cards", or demands for information that the company should already have if you are a current customer. If you are unsure whether the call is a scam, hang up and contact the company at their publicly listed phone number.

Lastly, these calls can be scary, especially if the caller threatens your safety if you don't pay or provide personal information. If something doesn't seem right, phone a friend and tell them about the call before you provide any information or money to the callers. We are hoping that if community members start talking about these scams with each other, they will become more recognizable as being fraudulent and we can prevent others from becoming victims. By telling a friend, you may increase your chances of recognizing the call as a scam.

If you are the victim of a scam call and have lost money as a result, please report the incident to your local law enforcement agency.

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