



Oak Brook Police Department

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CRIME PREVENTION BULLETIN

The Grandparent Scam

OAK BROOK, IL – The Village of Oak Brook has experienced an increase in grandparent and other phone scams. In an effort to keep our residents safe, please familiarize yourself with these types of attacks. You can help yourselves and our department by following these crime prevention tips:

- The offender calls the victim and claims to be their grandson/daughter
- The call may be someone impersonating an officer, lawyer, or medical professional calling on their “grandson/daughter’s” behalf
- Claim they were in some kind of accident or emergency (crash, DUI, etc) and were arrested
- Ask Grandparent to wire money or send prepaid gift card numbers, for bail, fees, or vehicle release.

To Avoid Being Scammed, be suspicious when you receive a telephone call where:

- A grandchild called from a distant location outside of normal travel
- The grandchild says, “It’s me,” or “It’s your grandson,” or “It’s your favorite grandchild.”
- The grandchild is in trouble or in some immediate distress.
- The caller asks for money to be wire transferred or gift/debit card numbers to be given over the phone.

If you believe you have become a victim of a scam:

- ✓ Call the money transfer company immediately to report the fraud and file a complaint.
- ✓ Ask for the money transfer to be reversed.
- ✓ Call the Oak Brook Police to report the incident.
- ✓ File a complaint with the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) at 877-FTC-HELP

Please call 911 immediately to report suspicious or criminal activity to our department.

