THE GRANDPARENT SCAM

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

WHAT IS IT?

The "Grandparent Scam" is a scam that targets the elderly in an attempt to steal large sums of money through a wire transfer.

Financial losses from this scam are usually several thousand dollars per victim.

HOW DOES IT HAPPEN?

A grandparent receives a phone call or email from someone claiming to be their grandchild*. The criminal states that he or she has gotten into a bad situation while in a foreign country and asks for money to be wired ASAP.

**Criminal may claim to be a police officer, lawyer, doctor, or other person.*

RESIST the pressure to act quickly.

CONTACT your grandchild or another family member to determine whether the call is legitimate.

NEVER wire money based on a request made over the phone or in an email, especially overseas.

IF YOU HAVE BEEN SCAMMED...

1. Contact your local law enforcement or state consumer protection agency.
2. File a complaint with Internet Crime Complaint Center (IC3): http://www.ic3.gov/default.aspx

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

http://www.fbi.gov/news/stories/2012/april/grandparent_040212

http://www.aarp.org/money/scams-fraud/info-07-2012/scams-target-grandparents.html

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