



COUNTY OF MONTGOMERY
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**MONTGOMERY COUNTY
OFFICE OF THE SHERIFF**



RUSSELL J. BONO
SHERIFF

WILLIE G. RICHET
CHIEF DEPUTY

GREGORY L. WOMELSDORF
CAPTAIN



<http://www.facebook.com/montcosheriff>

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SHERIFF OFFICE DAY: 610-278-3331
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SCAM ALERT: September 28, 2015

Contact: Teresa Harris, Public Information Assistant
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Montco Sheriff Bono warns against spoofing scammers demanding cash

Norristown, Pa., (September 28, 2015) – Sheriff Russell Bono is warning citizens against male and female telephone scammers, who have been threatening citizens with arrest, and demanding cash. These scammers have been calling in other areas, and may also be calling in the Montgomery County area.

The scammers intimidate citizens by telling residents that the caller is a ranked officer calling from a local sheriff's office warrants division. They further threaten that there is a warrant out for the resident's arrest, due to a failure to report to a grand jury hearing. Scammers are using sophisticated methods such as "spoofing" caller ids, so that it matches the telephone number of the local sheriff's office. They also use official titles and ranks, and callback numbers that have voice mail messages closely resembling law enforcement agency numbers. Victims are told to pay a fine of up to \$1,500 in order to revoke the warrant by giving the scammers their PayPal account number or personal credit card number.

"The Montgomery County Sheriff's Office never handles money over the phone and doesn't call citizens unless a warrant has already been issued," Bono said. "If you get a call like this, please do not give out any of your personal information."

Victims of this crime should immediately call their local police department or the Montgomery County Detectives Unit at 610-278-3368 to report the incident.

Residents can safeguard themselves from becoming the victim of a scam by following these tips:

- Never provide personal or financial information by phone when receiving calls unless the resident personally knows the caller.
- Note the telephone number of the caller from the caller ID.
- Document conversations of suspicious calls.
- Disconnect the call without providing any personal or financial information.

To learn more about the Montgomery County Sheriff's Office visit www.montcopa.org/sheriff.
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and Instagram at www.instagram.com/MontcoSheriff.

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