



OFFICE OF THE SHERIFF

LATAH COUNTY, IDAHO

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TO: ALL MEDIA OUTLETS

FROM: Lt. Brannon Jordan

Date: 07-09-2012

RE: Scam / Fraud Alert

The Latah County Sheriff's Office is warning citizens of a new scam / fraud that has been reported. The victims receive a phone call from a person posing as a Police Officer or Deputy Sheriff stating someone the victim knows, a friend or employee has been arrested. The victim is instructed to send "bail money" to a fictional bond company. The victim is requested to send the money Western Union and to stay on the phone during the entire process. The caller tells the victim the line must be kept open so the process can be tracked through GPS; this keeps the victim on the phone, preventing the victim from contacting the jail to confirm the arrest. After the money is sent the victim goes to the jail only to discover no arrest was ever made.

The Latah County Sheriff's Office does not use Western Union, Money Gram, or any money transfer company to arrange bonds for persons arrested. If you receive a phone call similar to the one described please report the incident to the Latah County Sheriff's Office or your local Law Enforcement Agency. The Sheriff's Office recommends that citizens call the Latah County Jail, 208-882-2216, to confirm custody of individuals before they respond to any requests to post bond.