



PRESS RELEASE

Tacoma Police Department
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cityoftacoma.org/police

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MEDIA CONTACT

Wendy Haddow, Tacoma Police Department Public Information Officer, 253-591-5968
whaddow@cityoftacoma.org

Tacoma Detectives Warn About Phone Scams

Tacoma, Wash. – In the past week, officers have taken reports from community members who have lost thousands of dollars to phone scams. Detectives would like to remind you that no government agency or law enforcement department will call demanding money, bitcoin, or gift cards.

In the most recent phone scams reported to the Tacoma Police Department, criminals are calling victims and claiming to be with the U.S. Marshall's Office and/or U.S. Border Patrol. The criminals advise they have intercepted a package addressed to the victim and the package contains illegal narcotics. Once the victim assures the scam artist the package is not theirs, the scam artist then either "helps" the victim so they are not charged with any crimes related to the package or "helps" the victim so the "dangerous drug dealers" sending the package can't locate them. Both scenarios require the victim to take money out of their bank account and deposit them into bitcoin locations.

If you receive a phone call from a scam artist, hang up! If you are the victim of a scam, call your local police department.

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