

Naples Police Department

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CREDIT CARD SCAM

The Naples Police Department would like to notify residents of a new credit card scam that suspects are using to obtain your personal information and make you a victim of Identity Theft. The City Of Naples has not experienced any of these scams but prevention is the best tool to avoid being a victim. Identity theft is the fastest growing crime in America, every minute about 19 people fall victim

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This latest scam involves someone contacting you by phone letting you know they have a package delivery for you and if you are home for the required signed delivery. Within hours a "carrier" arrives with flowers and a bottle of wine but no card from the sender. The carrier advises that he is required to obtain a delivery fee/verification charge providing proof of delivery and that the alcohol was not accepted by a minor. The carrier requests a credit card, swipes the card and provides you with the mobile machine to place in your PIN number and security code. The Fraud just occurred and you had no idea it just happened. Recipients of the flower and wine only discover days later that hundreds to thousands of dollars have been removed from their bank accounts or charged to their credit cards. This type of Fraud does not have to be just the delivery of flowers and wine, anything can be used as a ploy to obtain your credit/debit card, PIN number, and security code.

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Here are some prevention tips for all residents:

- Be certain that a delivery person is in uniform and has a company vehicle
- Be wary of accepting any "surprise gift or package" which you neither expected or personally ordered
- Use a paper shredder to destroy personal information documents and preapproved credit offers
- Do not give out personal information over the phone unless you initiated the call
- Ordering new checks, pick them up at the bank instead of having them delivered to the house
- Stay on top of your credit, have changes in your credit report emailed to you
- Follow your credit card billing closely, thieves start by changing your billing address
- Keep a list of account numbers, expiration dates and telephone numbers filed away at home in case of a theft. Being able to quickly alert your creditors is essential to prevent identity theft

If you see any suspicious vehicles, people or observe suspicious activity in your neighborhood, please contact the Naples Police Department by calling (239) 213-4844. Emergency 911