



NEWS RELEASE

CONTACT: Portage Department
of Public Safety
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: November 12, 2012

The Portage Department of Public Safety cautions residents about a telephone scam that has become more prevalent in the area. Victims are falsely notified of a loved one's incarceration in a foreign jail. Victims are instructed to send bond money or attorney fees via Western Union or Money Gram. Victims will continue to receive requests for additional funds for additional fees. Once a payment has been sent overseas, it becomes difficult to track.

The scams originate from outside of the country. Actors are used to play the part of a hysterical loved one. Oftentimes victims inadvertently give the name of a loved one they suspect could be in trouble. Portage Department of Public Safety encourages anyone presented with this kind of situation to contact their local police department before sending any money.

Anyone with information is asked to call the Portage Department of Public Safety at 329-4567 or Silent Observer at 343-2100, www.kalamazoosilentobserver.com.

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