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## Press Release

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For Immediate Release

Date: 12/18/2009

Time: 4:00

The Tuscarawas County Sheriff's Office would like to remind the public of the many scams, including but not limited to telephone solicitations, computer/email frauds and other charitable solicitations that occur more frequently this time of year.

Any requests for money or donations, account settlements, lottery winning notifications, etc., should be independently confirmed or verified before giving out any personal information such as social security, address, credit card and/or bank account information.

Reports of these incidents have increased over the past several months and seem to target, but are not limited to elderly residents. Most frequent complaints received are: requests from alleged collection agencies advising if payment is not made they will obtain warrants within twenty-four hours; e-mail notification of lottery winnings requesting funds be sent to claim a prize, and calls requesting donations to support local law enforcement agencies. No local law enforcement agency uses telemarketing to support their agencies and no legitimate sweepstakes require any funds to claim prizes.

If the offer appears too good to be true, be aware that it is probably a scam.