



Press Release

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*****NEW SCAM TWIST*****

Money scams have been an issue in jurisdictions throughout New Hampshire, but now there is a new method used by the scam artists. Traditionally, citizens will receive bogus letters instructing them to deposit bank checks into their accounts. The citizen is then instructed to send a specific amount via Western Union or other money wiring system, and told to keep the remaining funds for their "troubles." When the check is deposited, it initially clears so the unsuspecting citizen will follow through with the transaction. A few days later, the citizen is told by their local bank that the check is a fake, and the customer is responsible for the transferred funds.

As of late, reports have come to the Hudson Police Department regarding a new type of scam based on the traditional scam method. Citizens are receiving letters from "Secret Research Inc." and "Secret Shoppers" advising them that they have been selected as representatives for their organization. They are sent a check and told they will receive \$150.00 per hour to pose as a customer at Wal*Mart, and send a money gram to a named person within the letter. The scam reports that the purpose of the operation is to test Wal*Mart's money gram system. Once again, since the check is a fake, the unsuspecting consumer is responsible for the transferred funds. Citizens receiving a suspicious letter such as this, or phone calls soliciting personal information are urged not to respond or provide any personal information, and to contact their local police department.