



# **LOCAL BUSINESS ALERT - SCAM**

**\*\*Information shared from Bensenville Police Department**

***Facts: A business owner received a call at his business and the person calling stated that they are a vendor of the company. The caller stated he was calling to send a payment to the business but he needed the bank information in order to process the payment.***

The astute business owner told the caller to email him the information and that he would not give any information over the phone.

- Here is how the scam works (after some research):
  - The caller knows about the business they are calling.
  - The caller also knows that the person who answers may be confused and actually not know that they don't have or that they have an account and actually provide the information requested. In this case, the company is a printing company, so the caller pretending to be from an Ink company is an easy vendor to be impersonated.

After you provide your account number and routing number, what happens?

- In some situations, they will write checks and deposit them. They clear and they take out the cash.
- Some businesses may not find out until days later. In some cases, a month later or when the account is in a negative number.

Offenders may be hitting random businesses. However, not knowing for sure, it is possible they may be targeting towns which these criminals are known to saturate a town and then pick the next one.

In this Bensenville case, the business owner did the right thing and called the police to inform them of the situation.

**Should any business receive a call or request for their banking information or be suspicious of a similar request, please call 911 or the Winfield Police Department at 630-933-7160.**