

JOPLIN

POLICE

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Chief of Police

Date: December 21st, 2007
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FRAUD SAFETY TIPS

With Christmas quickly approaching, the Joplin Police Department would like to remind citizens of the community about telephone fraud. There are several different ways in which groups or individuals try to Con or scam people out of money. The majority of these are done from outside the Country and are therefore very difficult for Law Enforcement to trace. The Joplin Police Department would like to offer the following tips to the citizens of our community so they will not fall victim to these groups and individuals.

1. Never give out personal information:
Credit Card Numbers, bank ID numbers, Driver's License Numbers, and Social Security Numbers.
2. Ask the caller to give it to you in writing. If the offer sounds too good to be true, it probably is. Don't be pressured.
3. Ask for the name of the Company, who you are speaking to, and a return phone number so you can call them back after discussing the issue with a family member or close friend. If they do not willing to give you this information, then chances are they are not a legitimate company.
4. Never authorize Bank Drafts.
5. Investigate before investing your money.
6. Beware of testimonials that you can't check out.
7. If you have further questions or concerns call the Joplin Police Department at (417) 623-3131 or the Securities Division of the Missouri Secretary of State's Office at 1-800-721-7996 or (573) 751-4136.