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News Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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THE MADISON POLICE DEPARTMENT IS INVESTIGATING POTENTIAL SCAMS USING "GREEN DOT MONEYPAK CARDS". THESE CARDS ARE USUALLY PURCHASED AT DRUG STORES AND LARGER RETAIL ESTABLISHMENTS SUCH AS TARGET AND WAL-MART. AUTHORITIES WISH TO INFORM THE PUBLIC TO BE WARY OF ANY CALL, E MAIL, LETTER, OR ANY COMMUNICATION WHICH DIRECTS A PERSON TO PURCHASE A GREEN DOT CARD FOR THE PURPOSE OF PAYING A DEBT, FINE, OR MONETARY OBLIGATION, OR TAX/FEE FOR COLLECTION OF A PRIZE. THE PUBLIC SHOULD ALSO BE WARY IF THE SCAMMER THREATENS TO IMPOSE A FINE, FEE, OR ARREST IF THE POTENTIAL VICTIM FAILS TO FOLLOW THE SCAMMERS INSTRUCTIONS. THE SCAMMERS ARE KNOWN TO REPRESENT THEMSELVES AS LAW ENFORCEMENT, UTILITY COMPANIES, PRIZE CLEARING HOUSES, OR WELL KNOWN LEGITIMATE

BUSINESSES.THE SCAMMER CAN BE MALE OR FEMALE AND WILL SOUND AS IF THEY HAVE ACCURATE INFORMATION ABOUT THEIR TARGET.IF ONE SUSPECTS THEY ARE BEING TARGETED, MAKE NOTE OF THE INCOMING PHONE NUMBER WHICH COULD BE LOCAL, OUT OF STATE, OR INTERNATIONAL AND CONTACT THEIR LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY.THIS SCAM IS A NATIONAL OCCURRENCE AND GEOGRAPHICAL AREAS ARE RANDOMLY TARGETED. IF ANYONE HAS INFORMATION THAT MAY LEAD TO THE ARREST OR CONVICTION OF SUSPECTS IN THIS SCAM, PLEASE CONTACT YOUR LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT OR CRIME STOPPERS AT: 601-355-8477

TIPS TO PREVENT BEING SCAMMED WITH A MONEYPAK CARD:

- TREAT YOUR MONEYPAK NUMBER THE WAY YOU TREAT YOUR CASH AND YOUR WALLET. THE BEST WAY TO PROTECT YOURSELF FROM BEING RIPPED OFF IS TO BE AWARE OF COMMON SCAMS.
- NEVER GIVE YOUR MONEYPAK NUMBER TO SOMEONE YOU DON'T KNOW.
- NEVER GIVE RECEIPT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR MONEYPAK PURCHASE TO ANOTHER PARTY.

- USE YOUR MONEYPAK ONLY TO RELOAD YOUR PREPAID CARDS OR ACCOUNTS YOU CONTROL.
- REFUSE ANY OFFER THAT ASKS YOU TO BUY A MONEYPAK AND SHARE THE NUMBER OR RECEIPT INFORMATION BY EMAIL OR PHONE.
- TO USE YOUR MONEYPAK WITH PAYPAL OR EBAY OR OTHER ONLINE MERCHANTS, TRANSFER THE MONEY TO YOUR PAYPAL ACCOUNT BEFORE YOU PAY THE MERCHANT. DON'T EMAIL YOUR MONEYPAK NUMBER DIRECTLY TO ANY MERCHANT.
- DON'T USE THE MONEYPAK TO PAY TAXES OR FEES TO CLAIM "WINNINGS" ON A FOREIGN LOTTERY OR PRIZE PROMOTION. UNLESS IT'S AN APPROVED MONEYPAK PARTNER, DON'T USE MONEYPAK FOR ANY OFFER THAT REQUIRES YOU TO PAY BEFORE YOU GET THE ITEM.
- CHECK THIS LIST OF APPROVED MONEYPAK PARTNERS BEFORE YOU USE YOUR MONEYPAK TO PAY.
- PLEASE KEEP THESE 7 TIPS IN MIND WHEN USING MONEYPAK. GREEN DOT IS NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR THE QUALITY OR NON-RECEIPT OF ANY GOODS OR SERVICES YOU BUY USING YOUR MONEYPAK.

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MADISON POLICE DEPARTMENT