

WATCHOUT



DELHI TOWNSHIP POLICE NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH

Winter 2012

Tips to Avoid Telemarketing Fraud:

It is very difficult to get your money back if you've been cheated over the phone. Before you buy anything by phone, remember:

- ✓ Don't buy from an unfamiliar company. Legitimate businesses understand that you want more information about their company and are happy to comply.
- ✓ Always ask for and wait until you receive written material about any offer or charity. If you get brochures about costly investments, ask someone whose financial advice you trust to review them. But, unfortunately, beware – not everything written down is true.
- ✓ Always check out unfamiliar companies with your local consumer protection agency, Better Business Bureau, State Attorney General, the National Fraud Information Center or other watchdog groups. Unfortunately, not all bad businesses can be identified through these organizations.
- ✓ Obtain a salesperson's name, business identity, phone number, street address, mailing address, and business license number before you transact business. Some con artists give out false names, phone numbers, addresses, and business license numbers. Verify the accuracy of these items.
- ✓ Before you give money to a charity or make an investment, find out what percentage of the money is paid in commissions and what percentage actually goes to the charity or investment.

- ✓ Before you send money, ask yourself a simple question. "What guarantee do I really have that this solicitor will use my money in the manner we agreed upon?"
- ✓ You must not be asked to pay in advance for services. Pay services only after they are delivered.
- ✓ Some con artists will send a messenger to your home to pick up money, claiming it is part of their service to you. In reality, they are taking your money without leaving any trace of who they are or where they can be reached.
- ✓ Always take your time making a decision. Legitimate companies won't pressure you to make a snap decision.
- ✓ Don't pay for a "free prize." If a caller tells you the payment is for taxes, he or she is violating federal law.
- ✓ Before you receive your next sales pitch, decide what your limits are – the kinds of financial information you will and won't give out on the phone.
- ✓ It's never rude to wait and think about an offer. Be sure to talk over big investments offered by phone salespeople with a trusted friend, family member, or financial advisor.
- ✓ Never respond to an offer you don't understand thoroughly.
- ✓ Never send money or give out personal information such as credit card numbers and expiration dates, bank account numbers, dates of birth, or social security numbers to unfamiliar companies or unknown persons.
- ✓ Your personal information is often brokered to telemarketers through third parties.
- ✓ If you have information about a fraud or feel that someone is attempting to defraud; report it to state, local or federal law enforcement agencies.

Always remember, if you are considering purchasing a good or service from an unknown company, be sure to take your time prior to making the final decision and be sure to check to make sure it is a legitimate salesperson and/or business.

The Delhi Township Police Department Announces New Community Safety Initiative

The Delhi Township Police Department is launching The Delhi Police Alert Network, a new interactive way to keep the community connected and informed through opt-in e-mail, text message and web published public safety alerts.

Interested persons can sign up for The Delhi Police Alert Network for free at www.citizenobserver.com and navigate to the **Citizen Observer registration page**. Through this website, the Delhi Police will provide information to help maintain and improve community safety.

Subscribers can sign up to receive alerts from the Police Department via e-mail or as a text message to a cell phone. They can also opt to receive neighborhood only or citywide alerts, as well as surrounding city alerts that are on the Citizen Observer alert system. Citizens will be able to respond to law enforcement anonymously by clicking on the "Submit a Tip" button located in the email alert.

For questions about the Alert Network, please contact the Delhi Township Police Department at (513) 922-0060.



WINTER WEATHER ADVISORIES:

We all hear about a Level 1, 2 or 3 but exactly what does that mean?

Level 1 Emergency: Roads are hazardous and people should drive with caution.

Level 2 Emergency: Driving is discouraged and you should call before heading to work.

Level 3 Emergency: Only emergency vehicles should be on the roads. People could be prosecuted if they decide to drive on local roads.

When considering driving during this winter season, please be aware of the weather where you will be traveling to and drive accordingly. Snow, ice, sleet and slush can all play havoc with your trip.

Citizens Police Academy

We are accepting applications for our upcoming **Delhi Citizens Police Academy**. A starting date for the class has not been established. The class will meet on 13 consecutive Thursday evenings from 6 to 9 PM. You can stop by our police station located at 934 Neeb Road Cincinnati, Ohio 45233 to pick up an application or an application may be obtained from the police department's web site www.delhi.oh.us under the "Programs and Services" tab on the left side of the web page. Seating is limited and participants will be selected on a first come first serve basis. Please call the police station @ 513-922-0060 if you have any questions.

For information on the Blockwatch Program contact:

Lt. Jeff Braun (513) 922-0265 Ext: 119