

University of Miami

Medical Campus

Crime Summary Report

May 2012

****Tip of the Month****

Scams

How to recognize a scam - Is it too good to be true?

A scam is basically when people attempt to take money from a person gaining their confidence. There are hundreds of types of scams: fake lotteries and prize drawings, incredible schemes to make money quickly, fake investment plans, work at home schemes, and the list goes on and on. The people who run these scams are clever and sophisticated. They know how to persuade us to part with our cash. Most scams have some things in common; check out this list and help yourself to be on guard against scammers

THE CON

How scam artists succeed – They will:

- catch you unaware, contacting you, without you asking them to, by phone, email, mail or sometimes in person.
- sound pleasant, well-spoken and kind (on the phone or at your door) and want you to think they're your friend.
- have slick, professional leaflets and letters.
- be persistent and persuasive.
- rush you into making a decision.
- ask you to send money before you receive their tempting offer or win.

THE PITCH

They offer you something for nothing – Such as:

- you've won a prize in a draw or a lottery (even though you haven't entered one).
- an exclusive entry to a scheme that's a surefire way to make money.
- a way to earn easy money by helping them get untold millions out of their country.
- the chance to join an investment scheme that will make you huge amounts of money; and so on.

There are hundreds of examples but we can all protect ourselves by being skeptical. Is it likely that someone you don't know, who has contacted you out of the blue, will give you something for nothing?

THE STING

They'll ask you to:

- send money up front – an administration fee or tax, the list is endless but it's always a ruse to get you to give them money.
- give them your bank details or other personal details.
- buy something to get your prize.

They will lie to you and give you what seem to be good reasons why you should do what they say. They will answer all your objections. Don't send any money or give any personal details to anyone until you've checked them out and talked to a professional or family and friends. If they ask you to do any of these things they're trying to cover their tracks and get your money. It's likely to be a scam!

Other things to look out for

- they ask you to send money right away.
- they give you a PO box number as their address.
- they ask you not to tell anyone about the deal.

Thefts

05/02 Sylvester Cancer Center

Physician reported two of his lab coats were missing from 1st floor office corridor.

05/03 Kendall Medical Center

Visitor reported their vehicle missing from the parking lot. It was later discovered the vehicle was repossessed.

05/03 Bascom Palmer Eye Institute

Patient reported that their credit card may have been copied and used on 05/01 after their visit to the hospital on 04/26.

05/07 Mailman Center

Student left Backpack containing Visual Aide device in Main Lobby, upon returning backpack was gone. Estimate Value: \$5000.00 dollars.

05/07 UM Hospital

Employee reported an envelope containing \$266.00 dollars cash was taken from her unlock desk draw.

05/08 UM Hospital

Patient reported a small bag containing Tools, Bike Parts, Eye Glasses, and an unknown amount of cash missing from his room between.

05/14 (PPW) Faculty Affairs

Employee reported kitchen supplies from a secure cabinet missing. No force entry, keys were left in cabinet key cylinder.

05/15 Bascom Palmer Eye Institute (Deerfield Bch)

Contractor reported 6 rolls of copper wire stolen from his work truck. Total Estimate: \$402.00 dollars.

05/18 UM Hospital and Clinics (Deerfield Bch)

Employee reported her UM Plush logo, Badge holder, and Paper clip holder missing from office desk.

05/18 Bascom Palmer Eye Institute (Plantation)

Employee reported 3 eye glasses missing from display case. Eye glasses priced at \$285.00 dollars each.

05/19 Bascom Palmer Eye Institute

Physician reported his I-Pad missing from office desk. Estimate value \$830.00 dollars.

05/21 UM Hospital

Patient reported \$20.00 dollars cash missing from her purse while in room closet.

05/21 UM Hospital

Patient reported iPhone missing from her room while out for treatment.
Value \$270.00 dollars.

05/23 UM Hospital

Patient reported \$10.00 dollars cash missing from his pants pocket in room closet.

05/23 Rosenstiel Medical Science Building

Contractor reported the unsecured piping supply missing outside loading dock. (Total cost: \$1840.00 dollars)

05/23 Dominion North Parking Lot

Contract Employee reported \$208.00 dollars missing from her purse while locked in vehicle. There was no force entry to vehicle.

05/26 UM Hospital

Patient reported \$115.00 dollars cash missing from his pants pocket while on room chair.

05/29 UM Hospital

Patient reported leaving cellular phone charging in his room. Upon returning to room cellular phone was missing.

Assault

None

Burglary

None

Vehicle Incidents

05/02 Lois Pope Life Center

Employee reported that the entry gate arm, at the rear of the building, closed and struck her vehicle causing minor damage,

05/03 14th Street Garage

Patient driving up to the 9th floor was struck by a vehicle backing out of a parking space. There was minor damage and no injuries.

05/08 15th Street Garage

Employee witnessed a vehicle hit another parked vehicle causing minor damage. Note was left on the vehicle's windshield.

05/10 15th Street Garage

Student reported damage to his vehicle rear bumper while parked on 3rd level.

05/21 [Dominion Parking Garage](#)

Employee witnessed a vehicle struck a parked vehicle causing damage.

05/21 [UM Hospital and Clinics north parking lot](#)

Employee arrived to his parked vehicle finding damage to the driver side.

05/24 [UM Hospital Employee Parking Lot](#)

Person driving on the street lost control of vehicle striking perimeter fence and a hospital employee's parked vehicle.

Trespassers

05/03 [UM Hospital](#)

A known repeat trespasser entered the Emergency Room requesting pain medication. After discharge he refused to leave. The male eventually left the area.

05/24 [Bascom Palmer Eye Institute](#)

Trespasser entered the 6 floor visitor waiting area and stole a visitor's cellular phone. Owner approached suspect and the phone was returned.

05/27 [National Parkinson Foundation](#)

Trespasser was observed sleeping in front of Northwest door. He was asked to leave by security in which he complied.

05/28 [Calder Library](#)

Female trespasser observed sleeping on the east side of building. She was asked to leave by security in which she complied.

Escorts

University of Miami Security Officers provided escorts to any place on campus, including Metrorail. We encourage you to use this service when walking alone and particularly after hours. Security Officers will meet you at your work location and escort you safely to your vehicle, Metrorail, or any other building on campus. Call 243-SAFE (7233) to request an escort. You may be able to reduce your waiting time if you call a few minutes before you are ready to leave.

During May, security officers provided 107 escorts with an average waiting time of 3:31 minutes.

General Information

FREE SECURITY SURVEYS or CRIME PREVENTION SEMINARS

Conducted on an individual or group basis. To make an appointment or to request information, call Lee Michaud, Crime Prevention & Training Manager at 243-5084.

CRIME TIP HOTLINE (243-6280)

Caller can remain anonymous. All information kept confidential. Ask for Craig Hopkins, Investigator at 243-6280.