



# SURREY RCMP IS IT A SCAM?

## How to Recognize a Scam

There are many types of scams that involve fraudsters attempting to pass themselves off as someone in authority. They may impersonate a police officer or an employee of a business, financial institution or government agency such as “legal services Canada”.

Your best defense against becoming a victim is knowledge and awareness.

### Signs of a scam

- Unsolicited phone call, email or text.
- Urgent or threatening language used.
- Request for personal information such as name, address, birthdate, social insurance number, credit card or banking information.
- Serious unfounded claims like: “You will be arrested”, “A warrant has been issued for your arrest”, “A lawsuit has been filed against you”, “You are getting a refund”, or “You will be deported”.
- Demand for payment by e-transfer, pre-paid credit card, gift cards, or online currency (ex. Bitcoin).

### DO NOT interact

- Hang up immediately.
- Do not respond to email or text.
- When in doubt, hang up and call the organization (police, CRA, etc.) yourself using publically available contact information.

### Report it

- Whether you made a payment or not, report scams to the Canadian Anti-Fraud Centre at 1-888-495-8501 or [www.antifraudcentre.ca](http://www.antifraudcentre.ca).
- If you made a payment, contact your financial institution that transferred the money, and report the incident to police.

For more information on how to protect yourself from scams and frauds, visit [surrey.rcmp.ca](http://surrey.rcmp.ca).