



## SIGNS / RED FLAGS OF A SCAM



Through the investigation of various scam reports, the Leavenworth County Sheriff's Office has found the following information to be common indicators of a scam or attempt to defraud a victim.

- THE SCAMMER SAYS THEY ARE FROM THE GOVERNMENT
  - The government will send a letter – they need a paper trail
- THE SCAMMER SAYS THERE IS A PROBLEM OR A PRIZE
  - They want you to be emotional instead of rational
  - If they ask for money to process your winnings/prize, IT IS A SCAM!
- THE SCAMMER PRESSURES YOU TO ACT IMMEDIATELY OR THERE WILL BE CONSEQUENCES
- THE SCAMMER TELLS YOU TO PAY IN A VERY SPECIFIC WAY, USUALLY WITH GIFT CARDS OR WITH CRYPTO-CURRENCY
  - Government and Businesses use cash, checks, or credit cards
  - No legitimate business or government agency will ask you to pay with gift cards or cryptocurrency/bitcoin
- THE SCAMMER ASKS FOR YOUR PERSONAL INFORMATION, SUCH AS SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER – NEVER GIVE THIS OUT
- THE SCAMMER TELLS YOU TO KEEP IT ALL A SECRET
- THE SCAMMER TELLS YOU WHAT TO SAY TO ANYONE WHO MIGHT ASK QUESTIONS

**TALK WITH SOMEONE YOU TRUST BEFORE GIVING MONEY OR PERSONAL INFORMATION OVER THE PHONE OR EMAIL. DON'T BE AFRAID TO HANG UP. TAKE A FEW MINUTES AND CONTACT THE SHERIFF'S OFFICE BEFORE GIVING OUT ANY INFORMATION IF YOU ARE SUSPICIOUS.**

