



Spotsylvania County Sheriff's Office Crime Solvers

www.p3tips.com OR P3 phone App
www.spotsylvaniacrimesolvers.org
540-582-5822 OR 1-800-928-5822



MAY 6 THRU MAY 12 2020

TIP OF THE WEEK

What's a money mule scam?

March 4, 2020

Scammers may try to use you to move stolen money. If you help them, you could be what law enforcement calls a money mule. Money happens several ways. The story often involves scams related to online dating, work-at-home jobs, or prizes. Scammers send money to you, sometimes by check, then ask you to send (some of) it to someone else. They often want you to use gift cards or wire transfers. Of course, they don't tell you the money is stolen and they're lying about the reason to send it. And there never was a relationship, job, or prize. Only a scam.

What happens next? If you deposit the scammer's check, it may clear but then later turn out to be a fake check. The bank will want you to repay it. If you give the scammer your account information, they may misuse it. You could even get into legal trouble for helping a scammer move stolen money. How can you avoid money mule scams?

Don't accept a job that asks you to transfer money. They may tell you to send money to a "client" or "supplier." Say no. You may be helping a scammer move stolen money.

- Never send money to collect a prize. That's always a scam, and they might be trying to get you to move stolen money.
- Don't send money back to an online love interest who's sent you money. Also always a scam — and another a way to get you to move stolen money.

Criminals are good at making up reasons to help them move money. Don't do it. The money may be from other people they scammed. You may be helping criminals hurt people just like you.

If you think you might be involved in a money mule or money transfer scam, stop transferring money. Notify your bank, the wire transfer service, or any gift card companies involved. Then, report it to the FTC at ftc.gov/complaint.

Please share this information and the FTC's new infographic, developed with the American Bankers Association Foundation. People may be embarrassed or afraid to talk about their experiences, but you can help. A simple phone call, email or text, saying "Look what I just found" may make a difference in someone's life.

Lisa Weintraub Schifferle, Attorney, FTC, Division of Consumer & Business Education



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GRAND LARCENY OF AUTOMOBILE-WILBURN FARMS CFS 20-40395

1000 block Dewberry Drive, on May 6, 2020 between 4:50 and 5:09am someone stole the victims' gold color 2006 Toyota Corolla displaying Virginia plates from the driveway of the residence. The victim has started the vehicle before leaving for work and was inside the residence when it was taken. CFS 20-A40395

GRAND LARCENY FROM AUTOMOBILE-SOUTH OAKS CFS 20-41265

5300 block South Branch Road between May 7, 8:00pm and May 8th, 2020 8:00pm someone entered the unlocked vehicle and stole a loaded black 9MM Beretta from the center console of the vehicle and is valued at \$500.00. CFS 20-41265

GRAND LARCENY CFS 20-41242

Big Snatch Off Road, 4112 Lafayette Blvd, on May 8, 2020 between 4:23 and 4:26pm 4 males between the ages 16 thru 20 entered and one inquired about a car part while one went to the restroom. Later the victim stopped to buy merchandise and noticed that the wallet containing \$600.00 was missing. The wallet was in the dress trousers when the victim changed to work trousers. Only one male used the restroom and is described as black between 16 and 20 years, 5'10", 140 lbs, he wore a white zip up hoodie, black Adidas sweat pants, a blue bandana tied around his leg. They left in a black 2009 Dodge 1500 with 24" tires. CFS 20-41242

PETIT LARCENY SHOPLIFT-SOUTHPOINT INDUSTRIAL PARK CFS 20-40743

WAL-MART, 10001 Southpoint Parkway, on May 7, 2020 between 10:28 and 10:45am a female entered carrying a folded bag and went shopping. she checked herself out and did not scan some of the items and put some of the items in the black back. She was asked come back into the store when she suddenly ran away. She is black, 125 to 135lbs, and wore a white top. She boarded a gray Toyota Corolla displaying Florida license plates. Value of the merchandise is \$135.47. CFS 20-40743

PETIT LARCENY SHOPLIFT CFS 20-41083

Royal Farms, 5301 Jefferson Davis Highway on May 5, 2020 between 10:25 and 10:30am a female concealed a container of iced teas valued at \$1.89. She is black, middle age, and wore a pink shirt, khaki pants, a pink hat and carried a white and light pink book bag. She left in a box style black Kia Soul that displayed Florida tags. CFS 20-41083

PETIT LARCENY FROM AUTOMOBILE-SOUTH OAKS CFS 20-41689

5500 block South Oaks Avenue between May 9, 8:00pm and May 10, 2020 3:31pm someone entered the victims unlocked vehicle and stole a Rose Gold iPhone7 in a clear case from the center console. The phone is valued at \$300.00 and was tracked to an unknown location in Fredericksburg. CFS 20-41689



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PETIT LARCENY FROM AUTOMOBILE-SUMMERFIELD CFS 20-41373

1100 block Hudgins Farm Circle, on May 9, 2020 between 2:37 and 10:56am someone entered the unlocked vehicle and took about a cupful containing \$20.00 in assorted coins. CFS 20-41373

PETIT LARCENY OF AUTOMOBILE PARTS CFS 20-41758

Lowes, 10101 Southpoint Parkway, on May 9, 2020 between 4:45 and 5:00pm someone stole the front license plate from the 2006 Toyota Camry. CFS 20-41758

DEFRAUD INNKEEPER CFS 20-42055

Giant Food Stores, 10346 Courthouse Road, on May 11, 2020 between 8:05 and 8:45pm a male ordered seafood to go. He began to argue with the store manager and left the store without the food and not paying. He returned two hours later and ordered more seafood and when it was ready he took it and left the store without paying. The total amount due is \$99.00. He is a white male 200lbs, 5'11", between 30 and 40 years, gray hair and beard. CFS 20-42055

VANDALISM CFS 20-40944

Post Oak Middle School, 6959 Courthouse Road, on May 7, 2020 between 7:50 and 7:55pm an off duty police officer from another jurisdiction saw four juveniles acting suspicious near the concession stand and notified the Sheriff's Office. The deputy found that several panels had been pulled off from the building and exposing school items. Entry was not made. CFS 20-40944

VANDALISM-STATION SQUARE APARTMENTS CFS 20-40731

Cosners Corner East, 4115 Westmoreland Circle, between May 6, 11:00am and May 7, 2020 10:49am, someone removed a Dodge badge, flattened the right front tire and put deep scratches on the right side of the victims 2019 white Dodge Charger. CFS 20-40731

VANDALISM COURTHOUSE COMMONS CFS 20-40542

7100 block Aldrich Court, on May 6, 2020 between 3:42 and 4:07pm someone threw rocks at the victims' black 2012 Toyota 4-door. Some rocks were found in the driveway behind the vehicle and the left rear light lens was damaged. Damage is estimated at \$100.00. CFS 20-40542

VANDALISM-LEE'S HILL~WATFORD VILLAGE CFS 20-41647

10300 block Watford Lane, on May 10, 2020 between 12:00 and 12:31pm someone caused the back window of the victims 2005 Kia Van with an unknown object. It is valued at \$500.00. CFS 20-41647

VANDALISM CFS 20-41661

Rob's Car Wash, 5807 Plank Road, between May 9, 11:40am and May 10, 2020 2:32pm a customer used a bay to wash a vehicle-in-tow and while exiting the power wash hose became hooked to the trailer damaging the hose unit. The towing vehicle left the scene. Damage is estimated at \$1,300.00. CFS 20-41661



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VANDALISM-SUMMERFIELD CFS 20-42089

4800 block Hicks Drive, on May 11, 2020 between 11:13 and 11:42pm someone broke or caused the left rear door glass to break of the 2019 Chrysler. It is unknown if someone broke it or a lawn mower caused an object to break the glass. No object was found. The replacement glass is valued at \$200.00. CFS 20-42089

IF YOU HAVE ANY INFORMATION REGARDING THE ABOVE INCIDENTS OR ANY CRIME CONTACT THE SHERIFF'S OFFICE AND REPORT IT. CALL OR TEXT USING THE CRIME SOLVERS NUMBERS NOTED ABOVE AND GET A REWARD. ALL INFORMATION YOU GIVE IS CONFIDENTIAL, YOU REMAIN ANONYMOUS, DO NOT HAVE TO APPEAR IN COURT AND GET A REWARD OF UP TO \$1,000.00.

Crime Solvers Statistics

From January 2000 through December 2019, the Spotsylvania County Crime Solvers has paid out over \$100,000 in **CASH REWARDS** for information through 2,320 calls to the Crime Solvers Telephone Tip line, Crime Solvers Web Tip page, the former Text-A-Tip phone number, and the new P3 App Tip system. Information obtained has resulted in 207 arrests involving burglaries, drug distribution, arson, vandalism, breaking & entering and other crimes against the citizens of Spotsylvania County. To date there has been \$164,132 worth of stolen property recovered, and property and assorted types of drugs seized. From June 2010 through December 2019 64 Wanted Fugitives have been arrested.

Remember your phone call, Web Tip or
P3 App Tip can make a difference.

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