



Ocean Shores Police Informational Bulletin

01/30/11 Payday Loan Scam

I received a report last week from an Ocean Shores resident that involved harassing telephone calls he was receiving from a purported law firm out of California. The calls were coming to his place of employment. The law firm representative claimed to be calling regarding a delinquent loan from a cash advance company. While the Ocean Shores resident had taken out a “payday” type of loan, it was not with the company claimed by the caller, and he was not behind on payments.

The caller was in possession of an alarming amount of personal information belonging to the Ocean Shores resident including his full name, address, place of employment, and partial Social Security number. The caller made threats of legal action if money and further personal information were not provided.

During my investigation of the matter, I discovered that this scam has become quite prevalent nationwide. Please see this FBI press release for additional information.

www.fbi.gov/news/pressrel/press-releases/paydayloanscam_120710

Please be aware of this scam and others of a similar nature. Do not provide personal information to callers unless you can be certain of their identity. Remember- Caller ID alone cannot be relied upon to validate the legitimacy of a caller. There are products available that allow the manipulation of Caller ID text.

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