

Fraudulent Trends See Uptick During Holidays

New Phishing Scam Results In Steamboat Springs Police Reminder

STEAMBOAT SPRINGS, COLORADO-December 6, 2018-The holidays are supposed to be a time of joy and giving, but Steamboat Springs Police (SSP) would like to remind you to make sure you're giving to the folks you intended.

Over the past few weeks, SSP has received reports of an unknown person contacting organizations via email claiming to be the Executive Director of the group. This individual then "authorizes" the recipient of the email (usually a staff member at the approached organization) to send gift cards from iTunes or Walmart and the pin numbers to another recipient through email, which triggers the scam and access to the contacted organization.

"If it sounds too good to be true, then it probably is," said Detective Sergeant Jeff Wilson. "Scammers use clever tricks to get people to let down their guard; and this activity seems to always increase around the holidays, so please be cautious."

As a reminder, SSP suggest before sending any personal information to others, that you first confirm the validity through a phone call, online search or other means. In addition, do not send money, give out personal information or click on unknown links in response to unexpected requests. Legitimate companies typically do not ask for personal information as a course of normal business.

Anyone with additional questions or concerns about fraudulent activity, or any other crime is encouraged to contact the Steamboat Springs Police at 970.879.1144.

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