Crime Alert

Another Five University Students Falling Prey to Phone Scams

Modus Operandi

Western District received five reports of university students falling victims to phone scams this October and the total amount of money deceived exceeded $200,000-HKD.

The five university students each received phone call from swindler purporting to be government official, who first accused the victim of having violated mainland law, then forwarded the call to a claimed mainland police or prosecution officer to demand the provision of victim’s personal and bank account information to help clear the victim of suspicion. In some cases, the swindlers made the plots more convincing by asking the victims to log on to a website where wanted orders bearing the victims’ information and photos were shown. Being unaware that they were scammed, the victims provided relevant information to the swindlers, who could then steal the money in the victims’ bank accounts.

< Phone Scam – purporting to be mainland official >
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v==ZuSizcR9QUw

< Phone Scam – obtaining personal data by phone >
https://youtu.be/xpvPcEX5UxY
Police Advice

- The Hong Kong Immigration Department has already made it clear that they will not make any pre-recorded voice calls to the public;

- The law-enforcing officers of China will never ask citizens over the phone or Internet to provide their E-banking accounts or ATM passwords, or to make payments to prove their innocence, nor will they pose any wanted orders on Internet;

- Upon receiving call from someone purporting to be from any law-enforcing authorities or other organizations who asks citizens to provide personal information or property for various reasons, one should spontaneously further verify the caller’s identity with the organization concerned;

- Do not disclose the bank account number or E-banking password;

- Stay calm upon receiving a suspicious call and verify the identity of the caller;

- Do not deposit money into stranger’s account or place money at a public place;

- If the callers claimed having taken hostage of your children, relatives or friends, call the police immediately;

- Do not believe the caller’s words easily; call your children, relatives or friends for verification if necessary;

- Do not disclose the names of your children, relatives or friends; and

- Pass the above anti-deception message to alert elders who are less aware of local news or friends and relatives from overseas.
Beware of Telephone Deception

Mom, I have been arrested!
I need bail money!

I'm a Mainland Public Security Officer, we suspect you of money laundering!
You must pay a surety bond!

There are some problems with your parcel.
You have incurred a fine!

ALWAYS VERIFY A CALLER’S IDENTITY
DON’T GET CONNED

Police Advice - If you receive a call from someone you do not know:-

- Do not disclose your bank account number or online banking password.
- Do not deposit money into a stranger’s bank account.
- Do not pass on the personal data of your children, relatives or friends.
- Do not readily believe what callers say. Call your friends and relatives to verify if they know the caller.
- If you suspect a caller is trying to con you, hang up and call the Police.

Call 999 to report crime

(Translated by NGAI Wing-yan, PTR II, Ref.: 1710059(350) (Vetted))
Western Police Station Report Room : 3660-6600
Aberdeen Police Station Report Room : 3660-1300
Stanley Police Station Report Room : 3660-9600
Emergency Call : 999

Western District Intelligence Section
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