



Fraud & Scam Prevention

A Resource for Law Enforcement

Scams and fraud are on the rise in Kentucky and affect residents of all ages and backgrounds. Bad actors often impersonate law enforcement or court personnel to create fear and urgency in their victims. Law enforcement officers play a critical role in prevention, response and victim support, including guiding victims to the appropriate reporting agencies.



Spread awareness. Prevent harm.

Law enforcement can help prevent scams by educating the public and spreading awareness during routine contact and community outreach. Remind residents that official agencies do not demand personal information or immediate payment through electronic payment systems like PayPal, Venmo, Zelle or Cash App. Unexpected requests should always be verified.



Reach out to high-risk populations.

Officers can help prevent scams by sharing tailored messages on social media and with community groups frequently targeted by scammers, reinforcing common warning signs and encouraging early reporting of attempted scams.



Report suspected scams.

Timely reporting helps protect residents and track emerging scam trends. Law enforcement should document and report scams to their agency's fraud unit and other official reporting channels such as the Kentucky Attorney General's Office and the federal resources like the FBI and Federal Trade Commission. The Administrative Office of the Courts is not a reporting agency for scam complaints.

When receiving a scam report

- Listen and document carefully. Take detailed notes of the incident from the scam victim, including caller information, payment methods requested and any suspicious messages.
- Verify before acting. Confirm the legitimacy of any court or law enforcement contact before advising the scam victim.
- Reassure and support. Treat victims with understanding. Scams can cause fear and embarrassment.
- Preserve evidence. Retain emails, texts, voicemails, screenshots and other communications to aid investigators.
- Guide victims to report. Officers and residents can both report suspected scams. Direct victims to your agency's fraud unit and to state and federal resources such as the Kentucky Attorney General, FBI and FTC.
- Follow up and track trends. Record scam reports in your system and share with your investigative units and other departments to help identify patterns and emerging scams.

Do you need help reporting a scam?

Learn more at <https://kcoj.info/CourtsScamAlert>



AG Scam Report



FBI Complaint Center



Federal Trade Commission