

# NORTON HOUSING AUTHORITY

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY HOUSING

December 28, 2022

## Updated Information & New Year Business

- I would like to first start with some updated news on work orders. Reminder work orders are to handle problems in your unit as soon as they start. It will resolve the problem before it becomes out of control.

Also, Tenant damages are not charged to the tenant on wear and tear, these are old buildings and things come up. Its neglect of the tenant not notifying the housing authority when there is a problem that needs to be resolved.

- Smoking: Please remember to smoke in designated areas.
- Smoking hut: Please during very windy days, once you are done smoking, please close the sliders.
- Information regarding SCAMS that are going on.  
2 stories from Hingham Police Department enclosed
- This new year I will be doing a every other month news letter regarding things that are happening in our community. Hopefully, this will keep everyone up to date on what's happening around.  
It will be called: Woodland Meadows News Letter or if you have any suggestions what to name our newsletter, please let me know! 😊
- TENANT MEETING- JANUARY 11<sup>TH</sup> @ 1PM. We will be discussing work orders procedures, our up coming calendar, and our comments, questions, concerns talk. Hope more tenants will come out to join. Refreshments served.



Wishing everyone a Happy New Year!

Posted on: December 27, 2022

## **Resident Falls Victim to Online Scam**

Hingham, MA - Resident falls victim to a common scam computer commonly called the "Microsoft Security Scam".

On December 22, 2022 a 70 year old resident reported she had been scammed out of \$900. She said while she was using her lap top recently she received an "alert message" that warned her of a "security issue" detected on her computer. This "alert message" instructed her to call a phone number to resolve the issue. The resident called and was instructed to purchase several Apple and Xbox gift cards and send in the codes on the cards in order to have the virus removed.

The resident went to Walmart and purchased \$900 worth of gift cards and gave the codes on the cards to the scammers. The scammers continued to call her seeking more gift cards and she realized she had been scammed. She then called police. The resident has since then turned off her computer, called her bank and credit card companies to report the possible hack into her computer and contacted a credit bureau to request a flag or additional security on her personal credit information.

This is a common scam in which the scammers instruct the person to click on a link and this unknowingly gives the scammers remote access to your computer and any banking, credit cards or other financial accounts you use on your computer. The scammers vary this scam but typically claim they are from "Microsoft Security" or the name of a specific anti-virus company.

As a reminder, you only need to make a report to us if you are scammed out of money or of your personal information (Social Security number, banking account numbers, credit cards numbers, etc.) was given out to scammers. ### Contact P.I.O. Lt. Steven Dearth

## Hingham Police Department News

Posted on: December 21, 2022

### Elderly Resident Scammed in Grandparent Scam

Hingham, MA - An elderly resident fell victim to the common "Grandparent Scam" yesterday and was scammed out of \$26,000.

On Tuesday December 20, 2022 the 87 year old resident received a phone call from an unfamiliar phone number. The caller explained her grandson had been in a car crash in Vermont and a pregnant woman was injured. The grandson had been arrested and she needed to call his lawyer to help arrange for his release on bail. The resident called the phone number the caller had given her and talked to the lawyer. The lawyer explained the bail was set at \$26,000 cash. The lawyer told the woman the judge had place a gag order on the case so she was not allowed to talk about the incident with anyone.

The resident went to her local bank, withdrew the cash and returned home. She placed the money in a box. At approximately 6pm that night a woman from the bail bondsmen company arrived at her home. The woman knocked on the door and the resident gave her the box full of money.

The woman who picked up the money was described black, driving a black car and was dressed in black clothing. The resident described her as appearing to be possibly be in a "law enforcement capacity" but did not specifically see a badge or a full uniform.

Some reminders and tips:

- The caller ID name and phone number displayed can easily be changed to read anything the scammers want it to read. If you don't recognize and phone number, don't answer. If it's important, they will leave a message. This allows you time to verify who called you.

- The scammers are good at what they do and at prying information out from victims. For example, they may call and say "It's me, your grandson". The common response would be for the resident to ask "John, is that you? It doesn't sound like you?". The scammer then has the name of the grandchild and uses it to sound more personal. The scammer would say that they've been in a crash and injured their lips, teeth, mouth, etc. to explain why they sound different.

-The scammers try to not have you call anyone to verify that the grandchild is actually at home, work or school and not arrested. They do this by explaining how embarrassed they are at being arrested and plead for the grandparent not to tell anyone. They're playing on the hope that the grandparent instinctively wants to help. In this case, they actually claimed the judge put a "gag order" on the case to prevent them from talking about it before they send the money.

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-This scam usually involved withdrawing cash and wiring it to the "lawyer" or buying gift cards. They then ask you to send pictures of the card numbers or reading them on the phone to the pay the bail.

-While this same scam has been happening in Hingham for the last 20 plus years, this is the first time that the scammers actually came to the home to pick up the cash. Typically, the money is wired or photos of the gift card numbers are sent to the scammer and they be in another country or another state.

Please, talk about this scam and how it works with your older parents or grandparents. These scammers are good at what they do and can only be stopped by being aware. We shared a similar message 2 weeks ago when area communities were reporting victims falling for the same scam. ### Contact P.I.O. Lt. Steven Dearth

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