



Seattle Police Department

# Broadcast Fax

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Content/Contact: INFORMATION

## ALERT: "JUST YOUR P.I.N." SCAM

The Seattle Police Department Fraud/Forgery Squad reports that there has been an increase in the following scam:

1. Wallet or purse is stolen
2. Thief calls the victim claiming to be a "police officer".
3. The phony "officer" asks the victim if they are missing any items.
4. The phony "officer" tells the victim that they have recovered the stolen property
5. The phony "officer" requests the victims' bankcard/debit P.I.N. (Personal Identification Number) to verify the ownership of the items.
6. The victim provides the phony "officer" with their bankcard/debit P.I.N.
7. The thief goes to an ATM and uses the victim's bankcard/debit card as many times as possible.
8. Victim has been scammed.

**Be Aware!** A legitimate police officer will not ask for your bankcard/debit P.I.N. (Personal Identification Number).

Victims of this scam should attempt to get the name of the "officer", their "police" ID number, a call back telephone number – and then call the local police department to report the incident.

Being the victim of a scam or scheme can be embarrassing – the best defense in these incidents is an offense:

- Be alert to strangers asking for personal information
- Avoid giving any personal information – especially over the phone, internet
- Don't hesitate to ask for ID, call back numbers
- Be inquisitive, don't make assumptions
- **Report it to police!** Although it can be embarrassing to be a victim of these incidents – you are doing the thief a favor if you fail to report it

**REPORT ALL SUSPICIOUS PERSONS / ACTIVITY TO THE POLICE 9-1-1**



In our effort to reduce crime throughout the community, please share this bulletin with your neighboring businesses. Do not alter this bulletin prior to distributing. Your cooperation is appreciated.

I DO NOT WISH TO RECEIVE S.P.D. BROADCAST FAX BULLETINS.

INITIALS BUSINESS NAME (COMPLETE & FAX THIS FORM BACK TO SPD BROADCAST FAX AT 206.684.8863

**EMAIL EDITION:** TO UNSUBSCRIBE: GO TO <http://cityofseattle.net/spd/commnty/bfax/bfaxlist.htm> AND FOLLOW DIRECTIONS.

DIRECT QUESTIONS CONCERNING THE SPD BROADCAST PROGRAM TO: CRIME PREVENTION @ 206.386.9767