



**ILLINOIS SHERIFFS'  
ASSOCIATION**

**Together We Make A Difference.**

## **Let's Talk About Scammers**



### **6 Ways to Spot Scammers:**

#### **Scammers Contact You "Out of the Blue"**

It could be a knock on the door, a phone call, or a piece of mail you weren't expecting. For example, you didn't think you owed the IRS or a debt collection agency money, but they called claiming you could be in trouble if you don't pay.

#### **Scammers Claim There Is An "Emergency"**

A scam might warn that if you don't respond immediately your prize winnings will be lost, or that a relative or friend is in trouble in a foreign country. If something prompts immediate action, be cautious.

#### **Scammers Ask For Your Personal Information**

Scammers often pose as banks, health care providers and government officials asking for identifying personal or financial information. Anytime someone asks you for this information, be suspicious!

#### **Scammers Want You To Wire Money**

You may be asked to wire money or purchase pre-paid debit cards. This is the easiest way for scam artists to get their hands on your money, and it's almost impossible to get it back once it has been sent. Don't do it!

#### **Scammers Tell You To Keep It "Secret"**

By asking you to keep a transaction secret, scammers know you won't have to respond to questions from family and friends who might see through the scam. Check with someone you trust before acting.

## Scammers Make It Sound Too Good To Be True

If it seems too good to be true, it probably is! Above all, use this simple mantra to help you detect and avoid scams. It's always better to be cautious than to be a victim.

### Remember that scammers:

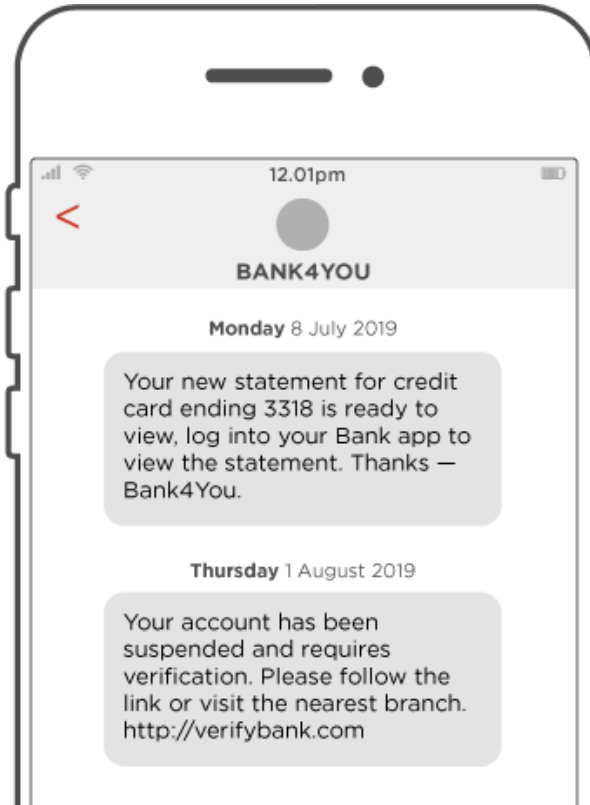
- Try to gain trust by claiming to be from a well-known business or impersonating a known contact
- Will suggest their own verification procedures, like going to websites they have created or calling numbers they provide to you
- Know how to appeal to your emotions and press your buttons to get what they want
- Create a sense of urgency to get you to make decisions without thinking.

### Practice: Can you spot the scam?

#### Phishing scam: Bank SMS

You receive a new SMS from your bank. After looking at it closely, you realize that although the previous SMS was real, the new SMS is a scam.

What are the five signs that this is a scam?



1. Scammers can make messages look real. Even if you've previously received legitimate SMS messages from the same number, don't assume all following messages are real. Scammers can 'spoof' real phone numbers or email addresses, to make it appear that they come from your actual bank or another legitimate contact.
2. It's different in style from the first SMS. The previous SMS is legitimate and it provides information only. It tells you to log into your account but provides no links that could lead to potentially malicious websites.
3. It has a malicious link. The new SMS contains a link to a phishing website. These types of websites attempt to trick you into giving out personal information such as your bank account details, passwords and credit card numbers. Even if you think the text might be real, it's safer not to click on any links, and to log into your account by typing your bank's URL (Uniform Resource Locator) directly into the address bar. The address bar appears at the top of your web browser, and the numbers and letters that make up the URL are the directions to the website or webpage.
4. It's not secure. Legitimate sites containing sensitive information will use https not http, but don't rely on this alone — some scam sites use https too.
5. It has a sense of urgency. Scams often try to create a sense of urgency. Don't rush — take the time to think about what the message is telling you to do and consider whether it's real.

#### Online shopping scam

You've been thinking about buying a new barbeque, then you see an ad on social media for a website that's selling brand-named barbeques for an amazing price. You click on the link in the ad and it takes you to a website.

What are the four signs that the website is a scam?

**Limited time only**

0D 6H 1M 32SEC

**Family BBQ**~~\$767~~ **\$267**

\*pay by bank transfer for a further 10% off

**ADD TO CART**

1. It's not secure. When online shopping, always look for the https (not http) and the padlock icon in the address bar to ensure there's a secure connection between you and the website. Don't rely on this alone, as some scam websites use https too.
2. It has a sense of urgency. Scammers try to create a sense of urgency to encourage you to do something quickly. Don't rush — take the time to do your research and consider whether a website is real.
3. The deal is too good to be true. The price might be enticing, but remember that scams often present offers that really are too good to be true.
4. It's using a non-secure payment method. Think about how they're asking you to pay. Scammers often ask you to pay by non-secure payment methods such as wire, bank or international funds transfers, money orders, pre-loaded gift cards, and cryptocurrency like Bitcoin. These methods are difficult to track and it's rare to recover money sent this way. Always look for secure payment options such as PayPal or credit card.

## Phishing scam: Mail delivery

You've recently purchased something online and are waiting for it to be delivered. You receive an email about a failed delivery and it's asking you to update your details. Before you click on the link, you carefully consider the email again and realize it's a scam.

What are the five signs that this email is a scam?

1. You can't confirm who it's from. Check that the email address of the sender is authentic. In this example, the domain name (the part of the email address after the @ symbol) is a sign that it's not real. If you're unsure, contact the business directly using contact details that you've sourced independently and you know are legitimate.
2. It has spelling and grammatical errors. These types of errors are a sign that it could be a scam.
3. It has a request for you to do something. The email is trying to obtain your personal details. If scammers gain access to your personal information they can potentially steal your identity or target you with a scam. Be cautious when providing your details.
4. It has a malicious link. Don't just be wary of attachments. Watch out for links to phishing websites. It's safer to go directly to the service provider's website by typing the URL directly into the address bar.
5. There's a sense of urgency. Scammers try to create a sense of urgency to encourage you to do something quickly. Don't rush —

take the time to consider and check whether an email is real.

From: auspost@yandex.com.au

**Failed delivery! Redeliver your item now.**

5 August 2019 at 9.20pm



Your parcel couldn't be delivered due to an incomplete address

Please use the link below to update your details

[Update my address](#)

Update your details now to avoid paying holding fees

Information for this article was borrowed from [scamwatch.com/au](http://scamwatch.com/au) and [OR DOJ](http://OR.DOJ)

For information on reporting a scam contact: Crime and Consumer Fraud Consumer Fraud Hotline: 1-800-386-5438; 1-800-964-3013 (TTY)

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**Behind the Badge: Sheriff Andrew Hires**  
*Richland County*



MEET SHERIFF  
**ANDREW HIRES**  
*Richland*  
**COUNTY**



[Click on above images to view video](#)

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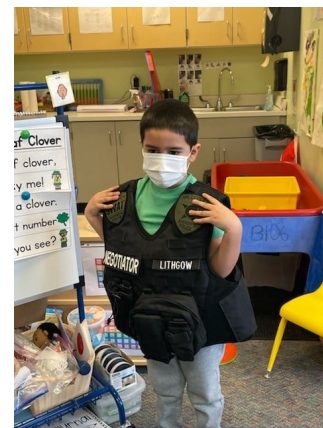
**Preschoolers Learn About Police & Firemen**



Will County Sheriff's Detectives Reyes and Lithgow joined Illinois State Fire Marshal, Michael Kuban and his K9 Phantom to educate Brokaw Early Learning Center on how police and firemen help other people.

Last Thursday, the 4 year old preschoolers enjoyed a demonstration from 'Phantom' who showed them how he can detect suspicious fires and accelerants. Sheriff's detectives also spoke to the kids about how police help people and work together with firemen on solving cases.

Thank you to the Brokaw School, teacher Ms. Parente, and all the preschoolers for inviting us to your school! It was our pleasure!



Fun Fact: Currently, Illinois has six certified arson dog teams in service.



## Washington County Sheriff's Office are finally able to move forward with their DARE curriculum.

Classes were canceled repeatedly due to COVID, however, Deputy Brian Buss recently became certified as the county's DARE officer. Deputy Buss will be coordinating classes with schools in Washington county, to begin this fall.

Shown here is Sheriff Campbell presenting Deputy Buss with his certificate of completion.

Congratulations to Deputy Buss!

**We are so proud to share that one of our Christian County 911 Telecommunicators was a spotlight on WAND TV's "Beyond the Siren" segment!**

Mykal Fisher has been a fantastic dispatcher for the Christian County Sheriff's Office for the past 16 years. She goes above and beyond for callers,



law enforcement, the fire departments and EMS personnel.

Mykal is also known for visiting classes at the schools and educating the students on when to call 911 and the information that they would need to provide. As a 911 dispatcher, she handles emergency calls in Shelby County as well. It is no surprise that Mykal was nominated to be interviewed and we are so happy to have her as a part of the CCSO family!

You can watch the full interview by clicking [THIS LINK](#)

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The Illinois Sheriffs' Association now has a **Video page** featuring select body/dash camera footage, ISA heroes and Behind the Badge videos. This page will be updated frequently. *Click the image below to view!*



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## 14 Spring Safety Tips

Here are some great spring safety tips to keep yourself and your family safe as your transition into the new season:

- Removing old paint cans and paint thinners, in addition to old newspapers and magazines. Your local dump station should have a place for hazardous material drop off to dispose of these chemicals safely.
- Consider your smoke alarms. Do you have enough in your residence? Change the batteries each spring to be sure you are prepared in case of emergency.



- Clean the dust covers of carbon monoxide detectors.
- Review your emergency escape plan with each member of the family in the event of a fire.
- Clean or replace your furnace filter.
- Grease can accumulate on your stove hood. Properly cleaning this is one way to keep flames from spreading should a fire break out.
- Check all fire extinguisher needle indicators and dates to be sure they are working.
- Clean around your dryer. Pay close attention to any ducts or dampers to be sure that lint has not accumulated and blocked this space. Accumulation of lint can lead to a fire.
- Check all chords to prevent an electrical fire. Make sure they are not frayed and wires are not visible.

It is also important to have an outdoor emergency plan for your family.

- Practice ladder safety. If you plan on climbing a ladder, you should do so accompanied by someone who can help in the event of an emergency. Be sure ladders are placed on level spaces and they have been secured.
- Check outdoor cords for frays and damage.
- Check any gas-operated equipment to be sure all fuel lines are safe.
- Do not store gasoline in an open space. Be sure all equipment used for lawn equipment and outdoor purposes has been properly fueled outdoors to eliminate the risk of inhalation.
- Keep all dangerous options liquids or chemicals from children, especially those that can become flammable.

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## Meeting Champaign County Sheriff: Dustin Heuerman

### **Tell us about yourself and your family:**

I grew up in rural Effingham County but have lived in Champaign County since 2008. I have a master's degree in criminology and a doctorate in community college leadership. My spouse is a registered nurse at a local hospital, and we have three dogs – a Doberman and two smaller dogs.



### **Describe what you do professionally, as well as your roles within the community:**

I provide leadership to approximately 150 employees in four divisions: law enforcement, two jails, Courthouse security, and emergency management. I work closely with other community leaders to help address community issues. I am an active member of Rotary as well as several local boards and commissions.

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### **What first made you get involved with your chosen field?**

I became a police officer because I've always had a passion for helping people. Someone has to be willing to protect people who find it difficult to protect themselves. I became Sheriff, several years later, because I wanted to facilitate positive change in both the Sheriff's Office and in the profession.

### **Describe what drives you to get involved within the community:**

My family and I live and work in this community and I want to be part of addressing community problems. I have been blessed in my life and want to make sure others have the opportunity to make good lives for themselves, too. I believe it is the responsibility of all of us to contribute to the communities in which we live.

### **What's the best thing to happen to you because of your community or career service?**

All of the great people I meet. It is difficult for me to step out of my comfort zone, but my community and career service has encouraged me to do that. As a result, I have met so many great people with diverse ideas and experiences. It helps broaden my perspective and see different points of view!

### **What's your personal philosophy on life?**

Life is too short to stress about the future. Do everything you can to best prepare yourself for a good future and then see where it takes you. I believe everyone's life has a plan regardless of if it is what we think we want at the time.

### **Tell us about someone or something that has influenced you:**

Every week growing up my entire family (parents, siblings, grandparents, aunts, uncles, etc.) would attend the same church service. I believe that has helped shape my ethics, morals and character. I also acquired many of my leadership philosophies from a former supervisor. He treated us like family but also held us accountable for our actions.

### **What changes would you like to see in your community in the next 10 years, and how can they be brought to fruition?**

I would like to see the police-community relationship get stronger. When we both trust each other, we are more effective when working toward common goals. We build that trust one day at a time with every

interaction we have with each other.

**If you weren't doing what you do now, what would you be doing instead?**

I would likely be working at a college/university, helping to prepare future criminal justice professionals for ethical leadership and public service.

**How do you think someone meeting you for the first time would describe you?**

A little reserved at first but eventually warms up; honest and genuine.

**What do you do when you aren't working or volunteering?**

Watching movies, playing with my dogs and hanging out with friends and family. My spouse and I also like to travel.

**What do you consider the biggest challenge about your community?**

Polarization on certain issues. As Sheriff, I work for everyone in the county, which many times takes compromise. When some think their ideas are the only solution and are unwilling to consider other perspectives, it makes collaboration and overcoming some of the challenges our community experiences very difficult.

**Tell us about your biggest strength:**

Open mindedness – open to new ideas from a variety of different perspectives. I try to let new ideas “sink in” before determining their viability. I’m also told I’m very personable, which I guess is a plus in this role!

**What are your goals for yourself?**

My primary goal is to always do the best job I can and never stop learning. I strive for a good work-life balance, which can be more easily said than done in the role of Sheriff. I would like to serve in the role of Sheriff until I retire, knowing I have set the Sheriff's Office on a path to be successful into the future, and then be financially stable enough to enjoy retirement while continuing to contribute to my community.

**What might someone be surprised to know about you?**

I have a Doctor of Education (EdD) degree – something seemingly uncommon for an elected Sheriff. A lifetime ago, it seems, I also played the trumpet and piano (not at the same time), and acted in musicals and plays in high school!

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ISA Store Open!



Shop Apparel & Accessories

Open: 3/28 - 4/17

**\*\*PRE ORDER\*\***

All items will be shipped out the week of 4/24

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**The Cebrin Goodman Teen Institute**

is open to all 7th - 12th grade students for the 2022-2023 school year!



## What is the Cebrin Goodman Teen Institute (CGTI)?

CGTI is a youth leadership program that gives students the knowledge, confidence and skills to live a drug and alcohol-free life. Our Mid-Year conference offers our youth opportunities to hear from and work with renowned speakers, connect with peers from across the state, expand prevention education & more. Our conference serves as a foundation for skill development, youth and adult networking and, of course, fun!

## Who Can Attend?



CGTI is open to all 7th - 12th grade students for the 2022-2023 school year, coming with a team or individually. This event is for students who are or want to be leaders in their schools and communities! We also encourage an adult from the school/community to attend to support the student's action plan.



## What is the ISA Scholarship?

This application is for an Illinois Sheriffs' Association (ISA) scholarship. Scholarships are open to middle and high school students entering 7th-12th grade for the next (2022-2023) school year. There are a limited amount of scholarships awarded each year. Once submitted, your application will go through a review process and you will be contacted by CGTI at a later date with further details. Priority goes to those who have not received an ISA scholarship before.

[www.ilsheriff.org/youth-2](http://www.ilsheriff.org/youth-2)

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## 2022 Upcoming Events:

Chief Deputy & Jail Administrators  
April 13- 15, 2022  
East Peoria

Jail Medical Summit  
August 25, 2022

Peoria

Sheriff Summer Training Conference  
September 17 - 20, 2022  
East Peoria

Administrative Assistants Training  
October (TBA)  
TBA

New Sheriff's Management Institute  
November 13 - 17, 2022  
Springfield