



BRPD News Item

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Date:	05-21-14
Slug:	Scammers from Jamaica
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Public Advisory

During the past several months Baton Rouge Police detectives have handled several cases that involve scammers calling from an 876 area code, claiming that the victim won large amounts of money and/or a new car. The caller attempts to get the victim to purchase a green dot card having them place a specific amount of money on the card. Once the card is purchased by the victim the caller ask for identifying numbers located on the green dot card. The victim provides the identifying numbers and is told that they will receive money and/or car.

The victim is told that the winnings will be delivered to their home. This never happens.

We receive many calls related to this type of scam throughout the year. Many are not reported because the victims, usually elderly, are embarrassed or ashamed of being a victim to this type of crime.

Calls with 876 as the area code, originate in Jamaica which is notorious for lottery and sweepstake fraud. The callers are sophisticated con artists that prey on the elderly.

Approximately 30,000 calls are made from Jamaica into the United States each day attempting to defraud American Citizens.

If anyone is a victim of this crime please contact the BRPD Financial Crimes Division at 389-3871.