Grandparent Scam

The Grandparent Scam is back. The scammer calls an elderly victim stating they are the "lawyer" for the victim's "grandchild" who is in need of bail money. The "lawyer" then puts the "grandchild" on the phone. The "grandchild's" voice is often distorted because of a "cold" so they don't sound like him/herself. The "grandchild" will often ask that you "don't tell dad and mom". The grandparent is instructed to withdraw large sums of money which will be picked up by the "lawyer". The victim is even instructed by the scammer on what to say if questioned about such a large withdrawal at the bank.

How to protect yourself:

- Stay calm, resist the urge to act quickly.
- Do not respond with your grandchild's name.
- Instead respond with "which one?"
- Try to contact your grandchild or their parent to determine if the call is legitimate.
- Use a phone number you know is genuine, not one they gave you.
- A lawyer won't tell you to keep this secret or coach you on what to tell the bank.
- Do not rely on your caller ID to verify who is calling, numbers can be spoofed.
- Hang up the phone.
- Call the police.