



司法警察局
POLÍCIA JUDICIÁRIA

Community Policing

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Police Circular
2/12/2022

Beware of “Guess who” scam via instant messaging apps

The Judiciary Police received a report from a member of the public in relation to the “Guess-who” phone scam. The fraudster called the victim via instant messaging apps and posed as the victim’s “relative”, telling him that he had changed his phone number. The “relative” called again the next day, asking the victim to send him bail money because he had been arrested for soliciting prostitutes in a neighbouring area. Without thinking twice, the victim made a bank transfer as instructed. The fraudster seized the opportunity and asked for more money; the gullible victim, who attempted to make another transfer, only was told by the bank that it might all be a scam.



Over the years, impersonation scams have happened from time to time. Perpetrators posed as “friends” or “relatives” of the victims via the social media or instant messaging accounts they hacked or hijacked through tricks. The Judiciary Police urge members of the public to stay vigilant and verify the identity of the caller before making any money transfers.

Preventive measures :

1. Stay alert if you receive any unsolicited phone calls, text messages or emails. Never disclose personal information to strangers;
2. Activate two-factor authentication (emails and mobile phone) on your mobile



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communication apps to strengthen the security of your accounts;

3. Install and update anti-virus software and firewall regularly, as well as changing the passwords to your instant messaging or social media accounts frequently;
4. Do not publish information about your families and friends on social media to avoid identity theft;
5. If a friend or family member asks you to transfer or remit money via SMS or instant messaging apps, remember to verify with the person concerned directly;
6. If you suspect your phone has been hacked, or you have come across telephone scam or other crimes, please contact the Anti-scam hotline of the Judiciary Police 8800 7777 or crime report hotline 993.

Community Policing and Public Relations Division
Judiciary Police