



For Immediate Release
10/6/2015

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HPD Receives Complaints about Scammers Calling Businesses

Harrisonburg, Virginia- The Harrisonburg Police Department (HPD) has received numerous complaints about a phone scam targeting local businesses.

Today, individuals have been contacting local businesses claiming to be with the Harrisonburg Electric Commission (HEC). The scammers are telling businesses that their power will soon be turned off if they do not provide payment information on the phone.

HPD reminds residents to always use caution when individuals give ultimatums and request payment on the phone. Always ask for the caller's name, company name and contact information. It is never a good idea to give out personal or financial information over the phone unless you know who you are speaking with. Scammers may have sophisticated software to show HEC or their number on the caller ID; however, any call back number being requested that is a toll free number would be a red flag for the scam.

HEC will always provide notification in writing when an account is overdue or subject to disconnection and will never demand immediate payment over the phone. The Harrisonburg Electric Commission does accept payments by phone; however, they do not require customers to make payments through Western Union, Green Dot Cards or other specific means. Feel free to contact HEC to confirm your account information at 540-434-5361 between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.

Anyone who provided money or financial information through this particular phone scam is asked to contact the Harrisonburg Police Department at 540-434-4436.

To news from the Harrisonburg Police Department, visit their website at www.HarrisonburgVA.gov/police or follow them on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/HarrisonburgPolice).

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