



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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Officer Truman Fitzgerald  
Media Relations Officer / Public Information Division  
(205) 254-2065 - Office

## **Scam Alert**

The Birmingham Police Department has been made aware of a recent scam attempt that has placed community members in danger of being defrauded.

The scam has been described as follows: the scammer contacts the community member by cell phone and addresses the community member by name. The scammer then claims to be a supervisor with the Birmingham City Jail and claims to have one of the community member's family members in custody, who the scammer also addresses by name. The scammer then says that if the community member sends a payment through Cash App, Pay Pal, or Green Dot card the Birmingham City Jail personnel will release the family member who allegedly is in custody.

**The Birmingham Police Department will never request any personal information or forms of payment over the phone.**

**If any community member has been a victim of this scam please contact the Birmingham Police Department's Financial Crime Division @ (205) 254-1761.**

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