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ALERT!

Our office received a call from a woman who was targeted in a Green Dot MoneyPak card scam.

Here's how the scam works:

The victim receives a call from someone claiming to work for a utility company and needs to collect money that is past due. The caller informs the victim that they can avoid having their utility service disconnected if they immediately pay the past due amount using a Green Dot MoneyPak card that can be purchased at a local store. The caller instructs the victim to purchase the Green Dot MoneyPak card in a specified amount and provides them with a phone number to be called back when the card has been obtained.

The victim purchases a Green Dot card at a local store and proceeds to call back the number they were given. The victim is instructed to scratch off and read the MoneyPak card serial number to the perpetrator.

Once the scammer has the Green Dot MoneyPak serial number they are able to transfer funds onto a prepaid debit card. The victim has now lost their money.

Here are a few tips to help you avoid falling victim to this scam:

- Be suspicious of callers who demand immediate payment for any reason;
- Remember that anyone who has the number on a Green Dot MoneyPak card has access to the funds on the card;
- Never give out personal or financial information to anyone who emails or calls you unsolicited;
- Never wire money, provide debit or credit card numbers, or Green Dot MoneyPak card numbers to someone you do not know;
- **Utility companies and government agencies will not contact you demanding immediate payment by MoneyPak.**

Stay Safe,

Sherri Bevan Walsh
Prosecuting Attorney