Police Dept. 5480 Grant Ave. Cuyahoga Hts. Ohio 44125 (216) 640-2045 chpd@cuyahogaheights.gov

A MESSAGE FROM POLICE CHIEF, BRIAN STURGILL

Dear Residents and Valued Business Partners:

The Cuyahoga Heights Police Department will be giving an informative presentation on current financial and identification "scams" that are occurring here in NE Ohio. The presentation program will be held at the Cuyahoga Heights Village Hall (upstairs auditorium) on Tuesday April 14, at 06:00 PM, during the regularly scheduled Cuyahoga Heights Senior Citizens meeting.
All village residents are invited to attend.

SAVE THE DATE

In the meantime, please read the following information which contains some of the current "scams" being perpetrated in our area.

Chances are someone you know has received an ominous call or message from someone pretending to be from the government, alleging that your information has been compromised or demanding immediate payment. **IGNORE IT!!!** This is just one of the tips that the Social Security Administration Office of the Inspector General (SSA OIG) is sharing to warn consumers about these scams.

Criminals are now expanding their efforts to include other government imposter scams. In a government imposter scam, someone claims to be a Social Security Administration (SSA), or another government employee, and may ask for personal information, demand payment, or make threats.

These scams primarily use the telephone, but scammers may also use email, text messages, social media, or U.S. mail. SSA Inspector General urges everyone to be cautious of any contact supposedly from a government agency telling you about a problem you don't recognize and provides the following suggestions.

Real government officials will **NEVER**:

- threaten arrest or legal action against you unless you immediately send money
- promise to increase your benefits or resolve a problem if you pay a fee or move your money into a protected account
- require payment with gift cards, prepaid debit cards, wire transfer, Internet currency, or by mailing cash
- try to gain your trust by providing "fake documentation," "false evidence," or the name of a real government official

The public is encouraged to report Social Security-related scams and fraud online @ https://oig.ssa.gov.
For other scams related to government agencies (non-Social Security) should be reported to the Federal Trade Commission @ https://www.ftc.gov/scams.

If you have any further concerns please contact **CHPD Detective Lukas** by calling **(216) 640-2045** during business hours (8a-4p M-F). If Detective Lukas is not available, you may leave a message or if immediate assistance is needed you may call **(216) 883-6800** and an officer will return your call or be dispatched to your location.

STAY SAFE!

Respectfully,

Chief Sturgill

Brian D. Sturgill
Chief of Police