



POLICE DEPARTMENT

**CITY of THE DALLES**

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## **PRESS RELEASE**

**DATE:** December 14, 2011

**FROM:** Jay B. Waterbury, Chief of Police

**SUBJECT:** Fraudulent Telephone Solicitors

**FOR RELEASE:** Immediately

The City of The Dalles Police is receiving complaints from people who are receiving telephone calls from callers who are representing themselves to be collections agencies or some type of investigator. The callers tell people that they have unpaid bills or tickets that need to be taken care of in order to prevent arrest or actions by collections agencies against them.

The people receiving these calls do not have unpaid bills or tickets and the callers attempt to get them to give them their VISA card number over the telephone to “take care of” the bill.

The callers are using deceptive electronic equipment that represents the call to be coming from a local telephone number on the receiving parties’ caller ID. An attempt at a call back may get you a local business which was not the source of the call.

The callers are very pushy and unpleasant and resort to name calling if they don’t get what they want.

These calls appear to be an attempt to obtain credit card numbers for fraudulent purposes. Do not give these people Credit card or any other personal information and hang up on them.