

## **NEWS RELEASE – INTERNET SCAMS IMPERSONATING CRIMINAL JUSTICE**

The Mechanicsburg Police Department would like to warn people of internet scams in which the senders claim to be law enforcement personnel or other officials from the criminal justice community. Two recent examples of these scams are included with this Release.

The similarities of the scams are:

- They claim a problem with receiving a package from a foreign country
- They claim to be from or on behalf of a criminal justice official
- They state that the problems can be resolved by paying some type of fee, which they will handle for you

They can be spotted as scams by:

- Obvious mistakes in spelling, grammar and punctuation
- The person claims to be from a government agency, but has a non-government e-mail address, such as yahoo or g-mail
- The sender does not have your real name, unless it is apparent from your e-mail address
- In addition to the obvious problems, no government agency would make initial contact with a person in this manner

It is troubling that these scammers are using the names of legitimate criminal justice personnel. Eric Holder is the current Attorney General of the United States and David Spotts is the current Chief of Police for the Mechanicsburg Police Department. However, it is an example of the increasingly sophisticated methods scammers are using to entice people into making mistakes. It is highly likely they used “data mining” techniques to obtain the information from the legitimate websites of the agencies involved.

To help prevent falling victim to these attacks:

- Keep your spam protection up to date
- Exercise caution when reading such an e-mail and be alert to the problems mentioned above
- Do not respond to the sender or the link in the e-mail
- Contact the alleged agency involved directly and ask if the message is legitimate
- If still unsure, contact your local law enforcement agency

Authorized by:

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David J. Spotts, Chief of Police

**Attachments (2)**

## **ATTACHMENT 1:**

**From:** Harry Taylor [mailto:harryt1230@yahoo.com]

**Sent:** Sunday, January 09, 2011 4:23 PM

**To:**

**Subject:** Fw: From The Desk Of The Chief Of Police Mechanicsburg Pennsylvania

Sir, i am forwarding you a message from the Chief of police in your state, i have arrived at your state, and now this.

From: dspots@mechanicsburgpolice. org <dspots@mechanicsburgpolice. org>

Subject: From The Desk Of The Chief Of Police Mechanicsburg Pennsylvania

To: harryt1230@yahoo.com

Date: Sunday, January 9, 2011, 5:19 PM

MECHANICSBURGH POLICE DEPARTMENT  
HEADQUATER 36 WEST ALLEN ST.  
MECHANICSBURG, PA 17055

From The Desk Of The Chief Of Police Mechanicsburg Pennsylvania,(Chief David J. Spotts)

Hello (\*Name and address of victim deleted).It has come to our notice that on the 2nd of December 2010 you were suppose to receive two military trunk boxes which was shipped to you from Iraq by a Capt in the US military by name Col.Patrick Hermann.

Well i write to inform you that your boxes has safely arrived the State of Pennsylvania,and it was delivered by a diplomat from the Quincy Travels & Logistics Company by name Harry Taylor. I wish to let you know that your boxes are presently under our custody,and it has been presently withheld by the Mechanicsburg Police Department here, you do not need to worry your self Mr.Roger,every thing is fine,and all your paper works and documents has been checked,and you need to know that you are partially complete, and have nothing much to panic about.

We are aware of the content of your boxes which you ae abut to receive, and you and i know that this is a very huge amount of money that is at stake here, which is been delivered into the city without getting an approval confirmation/Document that would allow us to release and personally deliver the boxes to you without any problem, all your paper works are complete, but you must have to get an approval from the Government before the boxes would be released to you.

As soon as this confirmation is being obtained, you have nothing to worry about because the boxes would be delivered to you by the authorities this time, this way you would be assured of getting your boxes. Thanks for your understanding Mr.Roger

Kindly

Chief David J Spotts

ATTACHMENT 2:

--- On **Mon, 1/17/11**, **Eric Holder** <[westunionagent@gmail.com](mailto:westunionagent@gmail.com)> wrote:

From: Eric Holder <[westunionagent@gmail.com](mailto:westunionagent@gmail.com)>  
Subject: OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL  
To: JandEdancers3@verizon.net  
Date: Monday, January 17, 2011, 9:01 AM

OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL  
441 4th Street NW, Suite 1145S  
Washington, DC 20001

Attention: Sir,

We have received instruction from the Police Department ,Home land Security and the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) here in the United States of America to prosecute you over allegations of money laundering and terrorist (\$10m usd) related activities to which there is over whelming evidence of your involvement.

Note a copy of this email have been forwarded to the UNITED STATE OF AMERICA POLICE/AUTHORITIES and will be ordered for your immediate arrest.

The need for your urgent prosecution arose from your inability to secure the mandatory Clearance Certificate from the Economic And Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC), Nigeria inspite of several opportunities given to you by the Police Department,Home land Security and FBI.

Inview of the indicting report submitted to the Police Department ,Home land Security and FBI by the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC), the Police Department ,Home land Security and FBI has recommended for your immediate prosecution.

You have to obtain the required Certificate from EFCC- DIRECTOR, DR. FRANK WILLIAMS.  
CONTACT HIM ON THIS EMAIL ADDRESS : [drfrankwl@gmail.com](mailto:drfrankwl@gmail.com) and the Cost of the Certificate is \$170.00 only We are giving you notice of service of writ of summons after seven days of receiving this letter by mail.

If after the seven days and you are not able to obtain the Certificate to clear yourself before the Police Department ,Home land Security and FBI, Legal prosecution will begin immediately.

Justice delayed is justice denied.

Your's faithfully,  
Attorney General  
Eric Holder