



OLD BROOKVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT

5701 NORTHERN BOULEVARD, OLD BROOKVILLE, NEW YORK 11545

SERVING THE VILLAGES OF

OLD BROOKVILLE, BROOKVILLE, UPPER BROOKVILLE, MATINECOCK, MILL NECK & COVE NECK

EMERGENCY: 911

BUSINESS: (516) 626-1300

FAX: (516) 625-2902

RICHARD H. SMITH

CHIEF OF POLICE

ALERT - TELEPHONE SCAMS **INVOLVING GREEN DOT MONEYPAK CARDS**

The Old Brookville Police Department has seen an uptick in reported scams involving Green Dot MoneyPak cards. Green Dot MoneyPak cards can be purchased at local convenience or drug stores and are typically used by people who don't have, or want, a bank account. They are commonly used to pay phone bills, cable bills, or credit card bills. Although most of the attempted scams reported to the police department have been unsuccessful, a few have resulted in the loss of thousands of dollars. The scams that have been recently reported typically are one of the following:

- **Lottery Win** - You receive a call that you've won a lottery. You are then told that to collect your winnings, you have to pay upfront fees or taxes right away. Rather than send a check for the fees and taxes, you're told to buy a Green Dot MoneyPak card for the right amount and simply send the numbers which are scratched off the back of the card.
- **Relative Needs Help** - You get a call from someone who claims to be a relative, usually a grandchild. They claim to have been involved in an accident, have been arrested, or are out of the country and have run out of money. In some cases, the caller has claimed to be a law enforcement officer needing bail money in order to spare their relative from being sent to jail. They say the best way to help and to provide immediate assistance is to load a Green Dot MoneyPak card and give them the number so they can access the money. Typically if they are successful, they will ask for additional monies claiming the arrest charges were upgraded or the injuries requiring medical care were worse than originally thought.
- **Internal Revenue Service** - You receive a call from someone that claims to be a representative of the IRS or other government agency. They claim that there was an error on a tax return necessitating an immediate payment and to avoid legal action or a warrant being issued for your arrest you're told to buy a Green Dot MoneyPak card for the right amount and simply send the numbers.
- **PSEG** - You receive a call from someone that claims to be a representative of a utility company. They claim your account is past due and if they don't receive immediate payment they will terminate your service. You're told to buy a Green Dot MoneyPak card for the amount of money owed and simply send the numbers.

If you receive a call similar to any one of these, police recommend that you be very suspicious, ask for their name, job title and then tell them their information needs to be verified. Never return a phone call to a number that the caller provided. Look the number up for the entities actual phone number and verify with a supervisor whether or not the call was legitimate. Any resident having any doubts should call the Old Brookville Police Department at 516-626-1300 and we will attempt to verify whether or not the call was legitimate.

***TO PROTECT AND SERVE WITH
INTEGRITY AND PROFESSIONALISM***