

PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Sheriff's Office Investigating Phone Scam

[Lancaster, Ohio, March 25, 2016] The Fairfield County Sheriff's Office is warning the public of a phone scam requesting donations for injured or fallen officers.

Earlier this month, the Sheriff's Office began to receive phone calls from concerned citizens advising that they have received calls from "John" claiming that he is collecting money for injured or fallen officers.

"Although these types of calls are more frequent, residents should use caution whenever someone calls to solicit money for injured or fallen officers. Our Detectives have been investigating these calls since the first complaint was received and are working to find those responsible." stated Sheriff Dave Phalen.

The calls have been coming from a 740 area code with a 204 prefix phone number out of Carroll, Ohio. The phone number involved is registered to an internet based phone service and a request has been made for the customer information.

An online search reveals that complaints have been made regarding this number being used for similar requests across the country for injured and fallen firefighters or advising recipients they have won a cruise, so it is not believed that the solicitors are local individuals.

Sheriff Phalen wants to remind residents to be alert whenever unsolicited calls are received asking for donations. Recipients of these types of calls are asked to obtain as much information about the caller and organization as possible and to report any such activity to the Fairfield County Sheriff's Office at 740-652-7911.

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