

FRAUD ALERT

Lottery Scam



Common Victims: Anyone
Method of Contact: Telephone / Email / Mail

This Scam has several different versions currently running. The first is when a person receives an email or telephone call telling them they have been entered into a lottery drawing. Later, they receive a call or email congratulating them on winning a substantial prize in another country's national lottery. They are told before they can claim their prize, they must send money to pay for administration fees and taxes so the money can be sent into the U.S. The lottery money in this case doesn't exist. Genuine lottery games will not ask for money to pay administrative fees and will not notify winners via email.

A second version of this is a check arrives in the mail either from a lottery won (when a ticket was never bought) or from another third party who works for a lottery agency. The check looks real, but when cashed it becomes apparent the check is fake and victims unknowingly end up trying to pass a counterfeit check.