## MOUNTAIN BROOK POLICE DEPARTMENT

## MEDIA RELEASE

**AREA SCAM ALERT** 

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Officer George French Public Information Officer frenchg@mtnbrook.org

## \*\*\* FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE\*\*\*

## Mountain Brook, Alabama, USA

The Mountain Brook Police Department and other neighboring agencies have received several reports of a scam that is being levied against local residents. Suspects are contacting citizens pretending to be a family member who is incarcerated, along with another subject who is deceptively identifying themselves as a lawyer and/or bail bondsman. The suspects are requesting a large amount of money in exchange for their "family member's release from jail."

Law enforcement agencies will not contact you and require you to make a payment over the phone for warrants, tickets, bond, or anything of the like. We will never send someone to your home to take cash payments. Police will never ask you to buy prepaid debit cards and provide the card numbers.

If you have been, or are contacted in the future by someone demanding payment and identifying themselves as a law enforcement representative, HANG UP and contact your local police department at their known number. Do not provide the caller with any personal information.

Based on the trend of this crime, the suspects are intentionally targeting elderly residents. Please ensure that your elderly family members and neighbors are aware of this scheme.

Anyone with information relevant to this investigation is asked to contact the Mountain Brook Police Department Criminal Investigations Division at 205-879-0486 or by email at detectives@mtnbrook.org. Those who are responsible will be arrested and prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law.

This is an ongoing investigation. Additional information will be provided as it becomes available. For more updates and tips on detecting schemes such as this, follow Mountain Brook Police Department on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter (@mountainbrookpd). You may also visit our website www.mtnbrook.org/police for a full list of resources.

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