

Schemes or Scams

As we quickly approach the holiday season, the Richland County Sheriff's Department and the Federal Bureau of Investigation would like to remind all senior citizens of a few safety tips this holiday season. Unfortunately, senior citizens are particularly vulnerable to the crimes of burglars, purse snatchers, petty thieves, and con artists. The most important tip, that can be given to you from Sheriff Lott and SAC Thomas, is: *If it sounds too good to be true.....It probably is!*



Richland County Sheriff's Department
Leon Lott
Sheriff



Federal Bureau of Investigation
David A. Thomas
Special Agent in Charge

Most Common Schemes or Scams

- Fraud and Home Renovation Repair Scams:
I will need half of the cost up front for materials....
- Crimes of Persuasion such as sweepstakes (Telemarketers)
You won!! You won!! But I need your money to get you your money...
- Distraction Burglary is often called "bogus callers", a crime primarily targeted at vulnerable older people.
Offenders pose as officials, including council workers, police officers and utility workers, in order to gain access to homes. Once inside the victim is distracted and the burglary is committed.

Please visit the Richland County Sheriff's Department website for other tips for crime prevention at www.rcsd.net or for Free crime prevention training call 803-576-3000. To file an internet crime complaint with the Federal Bureau of Investigation, visit the IC3 website at www.ic3.gov.