



Bail Money Scam Alert!

This scam preys on a grandparent's love and concern for the grandchild and has become **one of the top ten scams in North America**. People lose between \$8000 and \$15,000 each time they are targeted, with some victims defrauded multiple times.

How does it work?

You get a call from someone claiming to be your grandchild, niece or nephew, telling you that there has been a car accident or that they are in jail. They urgently need money.

They might ask you not to discuss it with anyone, including a bank teller. They will send an "official" to your home to pick up the money, or you might be asked to courier it out of province.

The pressure to act fast, along with confusing instructions, can make it hard to focus and rationalize what is happening.

What do I do if I get a call?

HANG UP.

Call your grandchild, and another family member or person you trust, to ensure they are safe.

IF THE SCAMMERS HAVE YOUR ADDRESS, and are sending someone to your home to pick up money, or if you feel your immediate safety is threatened in any way, please call 911 to report a fraud in progress.

IF YOU DID NOT LOSE MONEY:

Contact the Canadian Anti-Fraud Centre toll-free at 1-888-405-8501 or online at www.antifraudcentre-centreantifraude.ca.

IF YOU HAVE LOST MONEY:

Please call the VPD at 604-717-3321.

Fraud Prevention Tips

For more tips on how to prevent becoming a victim of fraud and other crimes, please visit the Crime Prevention and Safety Section on the **VPD.ca** website.