

FRAUD ALERT

Pigeon Drop



Common Victims: Anyone
Method of Contact: In Person

In this scam, a stranger hangs out in a store, looks for a person, and approaches them for help in a "situation." The theme is that the stranger (suspect) has somehow "won" monies (like the Lottery) that they can't get cash for (some reason), and they will be more than happy to share the winnings with the victim if they help them get cash. The victim goes to the bank and obtains cash. Once the money is out of the bank, the scam moves quickly. The suspect drops the victim off to do an errand, giving them an envelope that contains "the cash." The suspect leaves, and the victim finds that there is cut up newspaper and such in the envelope. Even though the suspect spends a lot of time with the victim, there rarely is any information on suspect(s), vehicles, etc. Often other people working in tandem with the suspect show up while the suspect is "setting the hook." Be aware of this type of scam and if you see anything like this occurring, please call local law enforcement.