

GERMANNA COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
POLICE DEPARTMENT



Craig Branch  
Chief of Police

**Bulletin# 16-001**

**OFFICIAL USE ONLY**  
**CRIME ALERT BULLETIN**  
**College Students Targeted In Phone Scam**

**April 27, 2016**

The college police department was contacted by the FBI's Richmond Field Office asking us to warn the college community to be on alert for a phone scams that primarily targets **college students** using the FBI's phone number on caller ID. This is similar to GCC PD Crime Alert Bulletin #15-003 (Oct. 2015) and FBI Public Safety Announcement Alert #01132015a-PSA.

The FBI has received multiple calls from college students at various universities in Wisconsin, and their parents complaining of a phone scam from someone claiming to be representing the U.S. government, and threatens to arrest them if they fail to pay thousands of dollars. In each case, the threats are associated with false claims ranging from money owed for student loans, to delinquent taxes, and overdue parking tickets.

During each attempt to gain personally identifiable information from the students, the caller claims to have specific student information. The originating number used by the fraudsters, which appears on students' caller ID, is masked as the number for the FBI's local office in Wisconsin. In some cases, the fraudsters will direct potential victims to the FBI Milwaukee homepage on the Internet, claiming they can "verify" the caller ID phone number in an attempt to keep victims on the phone and legitimize the scam.

The Germanna community is reminded; the FBI does not call private citizens requesting money. If you receive a call that seems suspicious, you should disconnect immediately and notify law enforcement.

If you receive these calls, do not follow the caller's instructions. Rather, you should:

- Notify your banking institutions. Contact the three major credit bureaus and request an alert be put on your file.
- Contact your local or college law enforcement agencies if you feel you are in immediate danger.

The college police department can also assist you with filing a complaint through the Internet Crime Complaint Center [www.IC3.gov](http://www.IC3.gov). If you have safety concerns, GCC PD can also provide safety escorts to and from your car while on campus at any time and help you with a personal safety plan. We can be reached at (540) 891-3079 for a safety escort.

As a reminder, if you see or hear of any suspicious person or activity in or around the college, please notify the College Police Dispatch Center immediately at extension **2911 from any college VoIP phone** or **540-727-2911 from a cell phone**.

**This crime alert bulletin is being distributed as required by the Jeanne Clery Act of 1998  
U.S. Code of Federal Regulations Title 34, Chapter IV, Section 668.46 (e)**

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