

SCAM ALERT

Gift Card Awareness



NYPD
New York City Police Department

Scammers will ask you for **GIFT CARDS** in order to:



- Pay an IRS debt
- Keep your Social Security benefits
- Keep your utilities on (electricity, water or heat)
- Pay for tech support
- Pay for a family member in trouble
- Pay a member of the military needing money
- Pay bail or ransom
- Avoid arrest or deportation



They will tell you:

- It's urgent - don't tell anyone
- Which gift card to buy
- To provide the gift card number and PIN



Safety tips:

- Gift cards are for gifts, not for payment
- Stick to stores you know and trust – avoid buying from online auction sites
- Check the card before you buy it – make sure the PIN on the back isn't showing
- Keep your receipt – this will help you file a report if you lose the gift card

For more information, call the NYPD at (646) 610-SCAM