

# The Grandparent Scam

Don't let it happen to you



# GRANDPARENT SCAMS

are a form of telephone fraud where the scammer phones a grandparent pretending to represent a grandchild in trouble and asks for large sums of money to be wired to him/her.

Thieves use social media and Internet hacking to find information about your grandchildren so the story sounds believable.

The scammers will usually call late at night or early in the morning to catch you off guard and will often tell you not to contact the parents as the situation may upset them.

Cases have involved grandparents wiring anywhere from a hundred to hundreds of thousands of dollars to places abroad such as China, Canada and Puerto Rico. After money is wired, it is almost impossible to recover.



Assemblyman  
**DAVE McDONOUGH**

For questions on this or any state matter, contact Assemblyman McDonough at:  
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# AVOID BEING VICTIMIZED:

- Resist the pressure to act quickly
- Attempt to contact your grandchild or other family members to determine whether the call is legitimate
- Never wire money as the result of a phone request, especially overseas

## If you think you are the victim of a Grandparent Scam:

- Call your local police department
- Call the State Department Office of Overseas Citizen Services (OCS) at 1-888-407-4747
- Contact the National White Collar Crime Center at [www.nw3c.org](http://www.nw3c.org)

For more information on grandparent scams, visit [www.fbi.gov](http://www.fbi.gov) or [www.state.gov](http://www.state.gov) and search "Grandparent Scams."

