



Fraud Tip Hit-Man Scam



By Det. Treven Upkes, Salem PD

Recently people have been receiving e-mails with subjects like “You Are Wanted Dead!”, “BE MORE CAREFUL” and “Be warned!”. All of these e-mails are a new take on the “Hit-Man” scam.

The basics of this scam are:

- A “hit-man” has been hire to kill you.
- They will do it soon.
- In order to avoid an untimely death you must pay them a counter amount. Usually between \$5,000 and \$30,000.
- You must e-mail them back to set up the payment.

Some ways to know it is a scam:

- Very bad grammar.
- You don’t know anyone who wants you dead.
- The “Hit-man” uses the wrong name when addressing the message to you.
- The reply e-mail address is from out of the country.

If you feel that the threat is real:

- Call the police.
- Print out the e-mail with the headers attached. (Headers are the information on an e-mail that shows where the e-mail came from.)
- Don’t delete the e-mail until you have contacted the police.

This scam comes and goes so be aware of it!