

OCEAN SHORES POLICE DEPARTMENT

NEWS RELEASE

Chief of Police Richard W. McEachin

Date: 10/12/05

The Ocean Shores Police want to inform the public of another mail scam that has reached the area. An Ocean Shores resident recently received a check in the mail from City National Bank of Beverly Hills indicating that she had won \$3200 from the North American Prize Pool, Lottery Sweepstakes Board. The accompanying letter advised her that an additional \$85,000 would be forthcoming and encouraged her to deposit the check.

The resident realized that she had entered contests in the past and possibly could have won. Thinking better of it, she decided to research the check before cashing it. She called the telephone number for the bank listed on the check. The people she contacted were very businesslike and professional sounding. They assured her that the check was legitimate. The alleged winner then thought that if the check was counterfeit, then possibly the telephone number was not legitimate. She next checked the Internet for the bank and indeed found it in Beverly Hills. She contacted their customer service office and found that the check was indeed counterfeit. This potential victim avoided considerable financial hardship by being skeptical, most victims do not check to verify the legitimacy of the check.

The lesson to be learned, is one we continue to preach, if something sounds too good, it usually is.

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