

## GRANDPARENTS SCAM




# FALSE VOICES, REAL DANGERS



The scam often starts with a phone call or email that strikes fear or urgency. The caller might claim to be a family member facing legal trouble, medical emergency or unexpected travel expense. They'll insist that you keep their request for help a secret, knowing that involving other family members could foil their plans.

## FRAUDSTERS WILL...



-  Call demanding immediate payment for bail, or fines to avoid going to jail. **Remember!** The courts won't ask for cash to bail out someone in custody and will require people to be present in court.
-  Claim to be a lawyer, police or family member in an emergency situation demanding funds. **Be Suspicious** of calls that require immediate action. **Hang up!** Call your local police and contact the family member directly.
-  Request cash and send couriers for pick up, or demand the victim send cash by courier services or via cryptocurrency. **Never send cash, cryptocurrencies or any other funds to unknown persons, unverified addresses or bank accounts.**

# Protect Yourself

## IN ORDER TO AVOID SIMILAR SCAMS, FOLLOW THESE TIPS



**1**

### **SLOW DOWN**

Scammers urge you to act urgently. Don't react!  
**Hang up the phone.**

**2**

### **LOG THE CALL**

Write down the phone number of the call.  
Did it say, No Caller ID? Write down the time you received the call.

**3**

### **MAKE A CALL**

Make a call to your grandchild or loved one to verify their whereabouts and well-being.

If you've been the victim of a crime, call 911 (if in a life-threatening or emergency situation) or 301-279-8000 (for non-emergency help).

