This message is sent on behalf of the Department of Public Safety.

October 8, 2014

**Telephone Phishing/Scam**

The University Police Department is aware of four cases of fraud or attempted fraud targeting URI students and their families, including many international students. The Rhode Island State Police are actively investigating these cases.

**The Fraud**

A targeted student (or their parent) may receive a phone call from the telephone number appearing as "401-444-1000," which happens to be the main number for the Rhode Island State Police. The caller states that the student or family owes Educational Taxes or other money to the IRS, or that they are in some kind of trouble and will be arrested unless a sum of money is paid. The caller may request a bank account number or to have money sent electronically.

**THIS IS A SCAM. Do not send or give out your bank account number or send money electronically in any of these or similar cases!**

If you, or a family member receive a phone call of this nature, hang up and notify the Rhode Island State Police and your local police department.

**Keep Secure**

The Department of Public Safety wants to remind all community members not to respond to unsolicited email or telephone calls that may be requesting personal and/or financial information. We advise all students, faculty and staff to check their personal information settings on e-Campus.
• **Students:** Unless you explicitly direct otherwise, the University's online-public directory includes your name, phone, email and address. To change this, log onto the eCampus "Self Service Center" to remove any information you do not want included in the directory. You will find links to settings for Personal Information, Privacy Settings and federal Family Education Rights and Privacy Act (known as FERPA) restrictions. These pages list all the items you can elect to allow or not allow the University to release. If you have questions, simply contact the Help Desk at helpdesk@uri.edu or 401-874-4357 (401-URI-HELP).

• **Faculty and Staff:** Your online directory listing may also be modified on eCampus. The "URI Directory Profile" is available from the Self Service menu link.

Thank you.