Telephone Phishing/Scam

The University Police Department has been made aware of cases of attempted fraud targeting URI students and their families, including many international students.

The Attempted Fraud

A targeted student (or their parents) may receive a phone call from the telephone number appearing as "401-783-3321," which happens to be the main number for the South Kingstown Police Department. The caller states that the student or family owes "unpaid taxes for school loans" or some other illegitimate purpose. The caller says that the person will be arrested if they do not send money and then attempts to get money sent electronically.

If you or a family member receive such a call, do not respond; and if you receive a message, do not return the call.

University Police are working with the South Kingstown and Rhode Island State Police on such cases. Members of the University community may call URI Police at 874-2121 to report such incidents.

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.