

Press Release

LAKE CITY
POLICE
DEPARTMENT



Chief of Police Gerald Butler

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Recently, officers from the Lake City Police Department have responded to reports from local businesses that have fallen victim to phone scams.

One scam involves suspects calling a business and pretending to be the business's electrical provider. They claim that there is an overdue payment and threaten to disconnect the electricity unless the amount is paid immediately. To make the scam more convincing, the caller uses phone spoofing, making the caller ID display as if it's from the legitimate electric company.

Another recent and common scam involves a phone call from someone posing as a corporate inspector. The caller claims they need to visit the business to conduct a safety or fire inspection. During the call, the suspect insists that the business must purchase specific items through the so-called corporate inspector to pass the inspection.

We encourage all small business owners and managers to download the Scams and Your Small Business brochure from the Federal Trade Commission (FTC). This brochure provides essential information on recognizing and avoiding scams that target small businesses. (link below)

Please consider sharing a copy with your employees to help safeguard your business from potential threats.

https://www.ftc.gov/system/files/ftc_gov/pdf/908a_scams_and_your_small_business_july_2023_508.pdf



**Report information anonymously by calling the LCPD TIPS line at 386-719-2068
or Crime Stoppers of Columbia County at 386-754-7099.**



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