



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Lt. Curtis Cheeks (336) 887.7927

DOOR TO DOOR SCAMMER TARGETS HIGH POINT UTILITY CUSTOMERS
City of High Point Advises Residents to Be Alert and Report Offers to Pay Utilities

HIGH POINT, N.C. (August 28, 2017) – The City of High Point wants residents to be aware of an ongoing solicitation scam where an individual has been visiting homes door to door and offering to pay residents' utility bills or student loans directly and collecting their Social Security numbers. These residents are being fraudulently advised that the suspect is able to access Social Security accounts to pay off outstanding debt. These payments are made using a false routing and account number and are not received by the City of High Point.

Currently, 51 City of High Point residents have fallen victim to this scam. The High Point Police Department has been made aware, and a police investigation is ongoing. The City reminds residents of the following when dealing with unsolicited transactions:

- Be suspicious of solicitors who seek immediate payment for any reason.
- Never give out personal or financial information to anyone who approaches your home, emails or calls you unsolicited.
- Never provide cash or debit or credit card numbers to someone you do not know.
- The City of High Point Customer Service Department will only ask for the last four numbers of your Social Security number when answering questions regarding your utility account.

Residents who are approached at their home by someone offering to pay their debts should call the High Point Police Department at 336.883.3224. Inquiries about your utility account should be directed to 336.883.3111.

The City of High Point aims to serve as the catalyst for bringing together the community's human, economic and civic resources for the purpose of creating the single most livable, safe and prosperous community in America. For more information on the City, visit www.highpointnc.gov.

###