



## ***HERCULES POLICE DEPARTMENT -- WATCH COMMANDER'S SHIFT REPORT***

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**DATE:** April 16, 2018

**TIME:** 0700-0700

**DAY:** Monday

**THE FOLLOWING CASES ONLY REFLECT A PARTIAL LIST OF ACTUAL CASES TAKEN. CALLS FOR SERVICE NOT GENERATING WRITTEN REPORTS ARE NOT USUALLY LISTED. ALL THOSE ARRESTED ARE PRESUMED INNOCENT UNTIL PROVEN GUILTY**

**Lost/Stolen License Plates** On April 16<sup>th</sup> 2018 at approximately 7:08PM a HPD Officer was dispatched to the 100 block of Ridgeview Terrace for lost/stolen license plates. The reporting party stated she never received license plates, for her vehicle, when she purchased it from the dealership. The DMV stated the plates were sent and to advised her to file a police report. The plates were entered into SVS.

### **PUBLIC INFORMATION ON SCAMS**

**WARRANT SCAM:** In the last few weeks several people have called, or come in, and said they were called, by the Hercules Police Department. The caller identified himself as a Hercules Police Officer and told the party there was a warrant for the party's arrest. A check of the warrant system showed no such warrant.

**Here is the scam.** The caller says the individual must pay a fine (bail, etc.) or go to jail immediately. The caller tries to get the party to give up personal information, a credit card number; or buy a prepaid money card and give the caller the "code". The caller often uses the name of an actually Hercules Police Officer. In at least three situations the caller has "spoofed" the Hercules Police Department's actual non-emergency phone number. Outstanding warrants cannot be resolved over the phone. Warrants can only be cleared by the court. Under no circumstances would an officer contact members of the public to demand money, or any other form of payment. **If you get this type of call HANG-UP.**

So far we have no reports of anyone actually giving up their personal information, or sending money to the scammers. If you think you have been a victim of this Scam (actually gave the caller money or Personal Information) call the police to make a report.

**IRS SCAM:** The IRS Scam has been with us for us for a while. It is particularly prominent around TAX time. The caller states he or she is an IRS agent and the party they are calling has an outstanding Federal Tax bill. The caller demands the party pay the owed amount immediately or the police will be at their door step to take them to jail. The caller again wants personal information and tries to get the party to send money via a pre-paid money card, etc. These callers also spoof phone numbers often showing a Washington DC, or New York area code. Most of the callers are actually calling from outside the United States. The key here is **THE IRS DOES NOT CALL PEOPLE TO TELL THEM TO PAY THEIR TAXES OVER THE PHONE.** If you get this kind of call do not give, or ever verify, personal information. Tell them you know it is a fraud and hang up.