



Headline: Be on the guard against scammers-CCID chief      Language: English  
Publication/Portal: Borneo Post Online                              Section: -  
Date: 13 December 2019    Page: -

## **Be on the guard against scammers — CCID chief**

BINTULU: Scammers are nowadays smarter but the people should be even wiser by not taking Macau scam for granted.

The scripts are almost the same from one case to another, yet the people are still deceived mostly due to panic and fear of the accusations from the callers.

Sarawak Commercial Crime Investigation Department (CCID) chief Supt Mustafa Kamal Gani Abdullah, in a statement yesterday, highlighted the urgent need for the public to really know the characters of these scammers to avoid from being cheated.

“Please remember government agencies like police, court, Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission, Bank Negara Malaysia and others will not ask you to transfer your money to a private bank account or a company,” he said.

Usually, he said the caller would ask for details of bank account, such as account number, card number and PIN number.

Then they will ask the victim to open a new account and use the victim’s phone number to register for internet banking and a reference for the financial institution.

The victim will be asked to transfer the money to the other account belonging to the individuals or companies.

“You will know to whom your money will be transferred before you finalise the transaction,” he said.

Normally, he added, most victims would be warned not to tell anyone about the case, to prevent them from getting advice from other people.

“No matter what the accusations or threats made against you, never transfer your money to their accounts.

“If you are really committing an offence or you were falsely accused, you have the right to be represented by a lawyer, to lodge a police report through legal process up to the court, getting advice from families and friends,” said Mustafa.

What is most important in this situation, he pointed out, is to stay calm and to think wisely.

He advised people who received such calls to firstly verify the accusations as claimed by the caller.

In that situation, he said the people must use the proper channel and not simply follow the instructions from the so-called ‘enforcement officers’.

The people, he added, must be able to think wisely and not to listen to stranger in the first place.

“If they are still in doubt, they must get advice from the nearest police station and check with the relevant agencies, not after doing the transactions because by that time they have already lost their hard-earned money to the scammer,” he said.

Mustafa said in a recent Macau scam case reported in Bintulu, a 28-year-old engineer lost a total of RM98,250 after completing 14 transactions to three different bank accounts between Dec 9 and Dec 11, as a security deposit.

He related that the victim received a call from an officer from the so-called Kuala Terengganu Court, who introduced himself as Ahmad Sharul Musa.

The ‘officer’ claimed that someone was using the victim’s identification (MyKad) to open an account at a bank in Kuala Terengganu.

The caller also informed the victim that he had an outstanding summons totalling RM13,600 before the victim was referred to a ‘police officer’ only known as Sergeant Eddy from IPK Kuala Terengganu.

After checking the data, ‘Sergeant Eddy’ told the victim that there was a problem with the data and the victim must talk to his officer ‘Insp Zulkipli’ for more details.

The conversation with ‘Insp Zulkipli’ surprised the victim, as he was told that his identification card number had been used by ‘Tan Hing Tung’ to open an account for money laundering.

To ‘solve the case’, the victim was then connected to another officer in IPK Kuala Terengganu, ‘ACP Datuk Nizam’.

Nizam then gave the victim three options – arrest warrant, account frozen for two and a half years or be investigated by ‘AMLA (Anti-Money Laundering, Anti-Terrorism Financing and Proceeds of Unlawful Activities) officer’.

The victim was given the third option and his call was connected to the ‘AMLA officer’.

The victim was ordered by ‘Datuk Nizam’ and an AMLA officer to transfer a total of RM98,250, through 14 transactions to three different accounts.

However, the victim only realised he had been cheated after Datuk Nizam could not be reached and blocked his call.

For any inquiries or complaint, call or send message via SMS or WhatsApp to CCID infoline at 013-2111222.