



Headline: Scammers on the prowl despite virus outbreak, MCO Language: English

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Scammers on the prowl despite virus outbreak, MCO

KUANTAN: Despite the Covid-19 scare and the Movement Control Order, a retiree agreed to deposit money at a financial institution here after scammers threatened to arrest her for money laundering.

The 66-year-old woman went to the financial institution on three occasions last week to transfer RM37,000 from her savings into a bank account, before realising that she was duped.

On March 30, the victim received a phone call from "Telekom Malaysia", informing her that her landline number was used for online gambling.

State Commercial Crime Investigation Department chief Superintendent Mohd Wazir Mohd Yusof said the call was transferred to a female police officer, who then informed the victim that she was allegedly involved in money laundering.

The call was transferred to an "Inspector Mazlan". The victim pleaded with him to cancel the arrest warrant. She was then tricked into transferring the money.

"She went to a financial institution on the same day and deposited RM22,000 before depositing another RM10,000 into

the same account the following day. On April 1, she deposited RM5,000. After realising that she was cheated, she lodged a police report."

Wazir said the suspects convinced the victim that she could escape arrest by following their instructions and transferring all her savings into their bank account.



*Superintendent
Mohd Wazir Mohd
Yusof*

In another incident, a 24-year-old teacher, who thought she could earn some extra cash by selling face masks and rubber gloves, ended up losing RM5,992.

Wazir said the victim, who wanted to make a bulk purchase for the items before selling them in smaller quantities, spotted an advertisement on Facebook on April 1.

"She spoke to a female seller before spending RM5,970 to buy 86 boxes of face masks and eight boxes of rubber gloves.

"On April 4, she paid the RM22⁺ delivery charge. However, she did not receive the items ordered."

Wazir said both cases were being investigated under Section 420 of the Penal Code for cheating, which provides for a maximum jail term of 10 years, caning and a fine, if convicted.