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THE ASSOCIATION OF BANKS IN MALAYSIA

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# Scammed out of RM1.8mil

## Retired teacher empties savings after call from 'police'

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**SEREMBAN:** Police have again reminded the public not to entertain phone calls from individuals accusing them of having committed a crime and then asking them to move their savings to other bank accounts to be probed.

This advice came from state Commercial Crime Investigation Department chief Supt Aibee Ab Ghani after yet another victim lost RM1.8mil in a phone scam here.

He said those who receive such calls from unidentified individuals

must also share this information with their family members and friends and not blindly follow instructions from the callers.

In the latest incident here, Supt Aibee said the 66-year-old retired teacher had received a call from a man claiming to be "Sgt Albert Lai" on Oct 28 who accused her of being involved in cheating and money-laundering activities.

The man also claimed that he was from the Pahang police contingent.

"Three days later, she received another call from a man claiming to be 'Insp Yong' from Bukit Aman

who asked for details of her savings accounts.

"She was then told to withdraw savings from her fixed deposit accounts to allow the authorities to probe her," he said, adding that the victim was told not to tell anyone about the case.

She was also asked to hand over her ATM card, which was collected from her home by a male suspect.

Supt Aibee said the victim, who is from Port Dickson, did as she was told and transferred her savings into several bank accounts.

From Nov 6 to 26, the victim made 103 transactions to transfer money into accounts belonging to eight individuals.

Another RM80,000 was withdrawn from her savings account with her ATM card.

Supt Aibee said after transferring the cash, the victim became worried and told one of her children about it. She was then told that she had been scammed and a report was lodged on Wednesday.

The case is being investigated under Section 420 of the Penal Code for cheating.