



# SHREVEPORT POLICE DEPARTMENT

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Shreveport Police Warn of "One Ring" Phone Scam

The Shreveport Police Department is warning residents of an increase in "One Ring" phone scam calls in the area over the past week. Victims of this scam should dispute any charges resulting from these calls with their phone service provider. Some carriers may require a police report to address the issue.

In the "One Ring" scam, fraudsters rely on getting individuals to return calls to unfamiliar phone numbers. The scam begins with a phone call that rings only once before disconnecting. These calls may appear to come from U.S. area codes, but the numbers are often international, masking their true origins. For example, area codes like "649" may be from the Turks and Caicos, or "809" may be from the Dominican Republic.

When the recipient calls back, they could be connected to an international number, where they may incur significant charges. These fees can include a high connection fee, along with expensive per-minute rates. In some cases, charges may appear on phone bills as "premium services."

Scammers may also leave voicemail messages prompting individuals to call back to claim a prize or to check on a supposed sick relative, leading people to dial the international numbers.

### How to Avoid This Scam:

- Do not answer or return calls from unknown numbers.
- Before calling unfamiliar numbers, check if the area code is international.
- If you do not make international calls, ask your service provider to block outgoing international calls.
- Be cautious, even if the number looks authentic.

If you have fallen victim to this scam, please contact your phone service provider to dispute any charges and follow their instructions.