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8/8/2018

NEWS RELEASE

Scammers Targeting Businesses now Threatening Violence

EL PASO, Texas – Thieves are targeting businesses by calling employees at the establishments and demanding money under threat of violence. Over the past month several businesses across the city have been the target of this on-going scheme. Unknown callers, all of which have been males, call the establishments and demand money from the safe or registers. Employees are instructed to take money from the business and deliver it to another location. Employees are then led to believe that the business is being watched by armed “cartel” members who are standing ready to enter the business if payment demands are not met. Delivery points are usually locations in Juarez or money orders to named persons in Mexico. There are slight variations from call to call but all have included credible information about the specific establishment that makes the threats more believable to the employee.

If such a call is received, do not engage the caller in a conversation put the phone down leaving the caller on the line. Do not dismiss the threats call 911 immediately.

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Media Contact:

Sgt. Enrique Carrillo
EPPD Public Affairs
(915) 212-4035