

## **PUBLIC SCAM ALERT: BEWARE UNKNOWN CYBER HOT-SPOTS**

**HOW IT WORKS:** People often find themselves looking for a way to stay connected to the internet in our 24/7 on the go society. While out and about, you see an advertisement for “FREE-WIFI” and log in on your phone, laptop, or tablet. If you log on to the wrong hotspot you could be giving cyber-criminals the keys to your computer, your identity, and even your bank account.

Security experts warn that cyber-criminals are waiting to pounce as they set up fake wifi hotspots next to real hotspots offered by restaurants and coffee shops. People connect to these sites and they don't know who is on the other side. Once you get on a fake wife hotspot, the cyber-criminal may gain access to your password and personal information. There are also fake hotspots that charge a small amount to gain access like \$2.00. When you swipe your credit card, the cyber-criminal now has information including your name, password, and credit card number. Don't fall prey and give criminals the keys to your computer, identity, or pocketbook.

### **HOW TO PROTECT YOURSELF:**

- Use only a trustworthy WIFI
- Avoid paying for WIFI hotspots
- Keep your security software up to date

**REMEMBER: STAY CONNECTED BUT STILL PROTECTED!**