Dear Campus Community,

The UNCW Police Department has been notified of a phone scam that appears to be targeting our students. The suspects may be obtaining student information from the campus directory, which is available to the public via the UNCW website. Students who do not wish to have their “directory information” made public without their prior consent or who wishes to end a prior request, must submit a Request to Prevent or Allow Disclosure of Directory Information to the Office of the Registrar. This form may be faxed, mailed, or emailed from your UNCW email account.

In this particular scam, the calls appear to be coming from a Washington, D.C. number. The callers represent themselves as government officials (IRS, police department, etc.) and claim that warrants have been issued for the potential victim for outstanding debt (tax fraud, issues with Financial Aid paperwork, etc.). They offer an opportunity to avoid arrest by providing some type of payment to settle the debt. The callers also advise potential victims not to discuss the matter with anyone, as it is an "ongoing criminal investigation."

If you should receive a call of this nature, hang up without engaging. Representatives of the government, university officials, or other agencies' personnel would not contact you via phone and demand immediate payment in this way if there were a financial issue of this nature. If you are unsure about the status of any of your financial or university accounts, it is recommended that you initiate contact with that office instead of responding to a call.

If you believe you have been a victim of fraud, contact your local police department. The FBI ask that you also report suspected fraud to them though the following website: [www.ic3.gov](http://www.ic3.gov). For more tips on how to avoid becoming a victim of fraud, please visit: Phone Scams or iTunes Cards. If you have other questions, please contact UNCW Police at 910-962-2222.