



City of Ridgecrest
Police Department

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MICHAEL D. AVERY, Chief of Police

Press Release

DATE OF INCIDENT: PRESENT
TYPE OF INCIDENT: COMMUNITY SAFETY TIP
LOCATION OCCURED: VARIOUS BUSINESSES
VICTIM: CONSUMERS
SUSPECT(S):

RIDGECREST POLICE DEPARTMENT COMMUNITY SAFETY TIP

Gift Cards & Crooks

THE CROOKS HAVE FOUND A WAY TO ROB YOU OF YOUR GIFT CARD BALANCE.

IF YOU BUY GIFT CARDS FROM A DISPLAY RACK YOU MAY BECOME A VICTIM OF THEFT. CROOKS ARE NOW WRITING DOWN THE CARD NUMBERS IN THE STORE AND THEN WAITING A FEW DAYS TO CALL AND SEE HOW MUCH OF A BALANCE THEY HAVE ON THE CARD. ONCE THEY FIND THAT THE CARD IS "ACTIVATED," THEY GO ONLINE AND START SHOPPING UNTIL THE CARD BALANCE IS DEPLETED.

TO HELP PREVENT THIS CRIMINAL ACTIVITY FROM OCCURRING, THE RIDGECREST POLICE DEPARTMENT SUGGESTS THAT YOU PURCHASE YOUR CARD FROM THE CUSTOMER SERVICE DESK. MOST OFTEN, THEY DO NOT HAVE THE GIFT CARDS VIEWABLE TO THE PUBLIC AT THOSE LOCATIONS.

PREPARED BY: DETECTIVE JUSTIN DAMPIER

MICHAEL D. AVERY Chief of Police
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