



AURORA POLICE DEPARTMENT NEWS RELEASE

Office of Public Information

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UNEMPLOYMENT DEBIT CARD SCAM

The Aurora Police Department has received multiple reports from Aurora residents who have received a debit card for unemployment claims they did not file. Most of these reports involve a debit card issued to the victim from KeyBank via the Illinois Department of Employment Security (IDES).

According to IDES, unemployment systems across the country are seeing an increase in fraud of unemployment insurance programs during the COVID-19 pandemic. IDES is also working with local and federal law enforcement authorities to investigate, pursue, and prosecute those who are defrauding the unemployment insurance system.

According to IDES, an individual who has not filed an unemployment claim but has received a debit card or an unemployment insurance (UI) finding letter in the mail has most likely been the target of fraud. An individual's personal identifying information being used by fraudsters to file an unemployment claim is likely due to a prior cyber hack or data breach, such as the Equifax breach. It is imperative that individuals take the following steps if they have not filed an unemployment claim and have erroneously received an unemployment debit card or UI finding letter in the mail:

1. Immediately call IDES at [800.814.0513](tel:800.814.0513) and when prompted:

- * Select the English or Spanish language option
- * Selection option 1 for claimants
- * Selection option 5 to report identity theft

2. Do not activate the debit card that was mailed to you

3. File a police report with the Aurora Police Department

4. File an online complaint with the Federal Trade Commission at Identitytheft.gov

If you suspect you have been a victim of this scam, please contact the Aurora Police Department at (630) 256-5000 or come to the Aurora Police Department to file a report with our front desk officer.

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(APD Reports: AUPR20004727, AUPR20005620, AUPR20006119, AUPR20006654, AUPR20007699, AUPR20008287, AUPR20008151, AUPR20008325, AUPR20008330)

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