



FRAUD ALERT!

From the Office of Lee County Sheriff Mike Scott

Scammed and *Almost Scammed* Again!

Several years ago a Lee County citizen became the victim of the Australian Lottery Scam. In this she lost \$175,000. Because of this crime she had to sell her home; she could not afford to live in it anymore. She is now living on her small social security check. She will eagerly tell you she has learned a lot about international lottery scams; unfortunately for her it is too late. Her hope is it won't be too late for someone else and that her story can save others from losing their life savings.

This April she received a phone call from someone claiming to be an attorney working with the Attorney General's Office. His goal was to assist victims of various international lottery scams. He said that all she needed to do was pay him \$872.00. He said that he could continue to work her case so that she would get her money back. Thankfully she was suspicious and decided to contact the Lee County Sheriff's Office Fraud Line and after a short investigation we confirmed this to be a scam. Sheriff Scott wants everyone to remember that if you are a victim neither the State Attorney or the Attorney General's Office will ask you for money for their services. Sheriff Scott says, "If you are ever in doubt please call the Lee County Sheriff's Office Fraud Line at 477-1274. If the person calling you is legitimate they won't mind you checking them out first."



**For assistance call the Lee County
Sheriff's Office Fraud Hot Line:
2399-477-1242**

*CASE is a Partnership of the Lee County Sheriff's Office
and the community to prevent elder financial exploitation*