



WILL COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT & COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTER

For Immediate Release

December 2, 2010

News media calls to Vic Reato: Media Services Manager at (815)727-5088.

Agency Website: www.willcountyhealth.org

Twitter: WillCoHealth

WILL COUNTY ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH WARNS OF HEALTH INSPECTION SCAM

JOLIET – The Will County Health Department’s Division of Environmental Health is anxious to notify area restaurants, and other small businesses, about a circulating scam targeting food service establishments.

The scammers will contact restaurateurs and claim to be health inspectors, or other government officials. Once a fake identity has been established, business owners are informed about a “new inspection procedure.”

Unfortunately, there is no new inspection procedure, and the scammer is really trying to set up an account linking the restaurant with a national online auction service. If an account is successfully established, the verification information can be used in conjunction with other fraudulent schemes.

How the Scam Works:

The scammer provides a numeric code and instructs the restaurant operator to provide the confirmation code when prompted during an automated phone call, or scheduled food service inspection. The purpose of the code is to get the restaurateur to provide false verification which can then be used for other fraudulent purposes.

Food service operators should remember that all Will County Environmental Health inspections are unannounced, and are never scheduled in advance. Any “government official” who asks food service operators to use a code in conjunction with an automated call system, or an inspector, is part of a fraud scheme.

Will County Environmental Health personnel are required to carry proper photo identification. Restaurateurs should ask for proper photo identification during an inspection.

Any questions about Will County Environmental Health food service inspections should be directed to 815-727-8490.

There are more than 2,600 food service establishments in Will County. The Health Department conducted 7,430 food service inspections during 2009.



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

Main Office
501 Ella Avenue
Joliet, IL 60433
Ph 815.727.8480
Fx 815.727.8484

Community Health Center
1106 Neal Avenue
Joliet, IL 60433
Ph 815.727.8670
Fx 815.727.8852

Eastern Branch Office
44 Towncenter
University Park, IL 60466
Ph 815.727.8803
Ph 708.534.0800
Fx 708.534.3455

Northern Branch Office
323 Quadrangle Dr.
Bolingbrook, IL 60440
Ph 630.679.7000
Fx 630.679.7015