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HPD WARNS PUBLIC OF ATM SCAM

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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HONOLULU — Financial institutions are warning customers about a recent scam involving ATM transactions on O‘ahu.

Customers have reported being approached at ATMs by individuals who ask them to deposit a check in exchange for cash. The scammers often share a sob story or claim an urgent emergency, offering a generous “cash tip” as an incentive.

In one common version of the scam, the suspect provides a check for \$500 and asks the customer to deposit it into their account. The ATM receipt appears to show the funds have been added, and the customer then withdraws \$500 in cash to hand back to the scammer. In return, the scammer gives the customer \$100.

However, within a day, the deposited check is returned because it was drawn on a closed account. As a result, the customer loses \$400 from their own account.

The public is reminded of the following:

- Never conduct financial transactions on behalf of strangers.
- Do not accept or deposit checks from anyone you do not know and trust.
- Report suspicious activity immediately to your financial institution.

This scam has already cost victims hundreds of dollars, and banks are urging everyone to remain vigilant.

Anonymous tips can be submitted to CrimeStoppers at 808-955-8300 or via the P3 Tips app. For more information, visit HonoluluPD.org.

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