Oct. 24, 2019

**Stalking via social media**

The University of Missouri Police Department has received several recent reports involving individuals being offered money to send nude pictures or videos. The individuals are being approached on social media platforms.

This is a scam. If individuals comply, they are not paid and instead the suspect(s) makes further contact with the individuals and threatens to post the pictures/video to porn sites, wants more pictures/videos or asks to meet or call them.

Individuals who have information regarding this offense are encouraged to contact MU Police Department at (573) 882-7201, or call CrimeStoppers at (573) 875-TIPS (8477) to remain anonymous.

This information is provided to the community in an effort to keep the community informed of crimes on campus. MUPD encourages all victims of crime to report any incident so they may receive assistance, counseling and help. Reports to police can also help MUPD apprehend the suspect and provide accurate crime statistics to the community.

While individuals can do everything correctly and still be the victim of a crime, MUPD has posted several tips, covering various safety topics to reduce the chances of becoming a victim of a crime that can be reviewed and printed at: http://mupolice.com/mupd/safetytips

The MU Police Department offers the following general safety tips:

- Don’t add unfamiliar people to social media friends list.
- Use a different password for each social media accounts.
- Pick strong passwords and keep it safe.
- Use two-factor authentication to log into Instagram safely.
- Choose who sees posts on Instagram with a private account.
- Block strangers who try to make contact.
- Control the comments on Instagram.
- Keep location settings private.
- Don’t give out personal information over social media.
- Report any abuse, bullying, harassment or impersonation.
- Click links with caution.
- Other crime prevention tips can be found on the MUPD website.

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