



Headline: SCAMMERS GET 'ACTING' CLASSES
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CONFIDENCE TRICKS

SCAMMERS GET 'ACTING' CLASSES

They are trained to impersonate cops, Customs officers or others, says police commercial crime chief

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SYNDICATES involved in confidence tricks, particularly the infamous Macau Scam, are believed to be conducting special classes for their members.

These members were being trained to impersonate the authorities to carry out scams.

State Commercial Crime Investigation Department chief Superintendent Mohd Wazir Mohd Yusof said the classes had improved the members' "performances" to cheat people.

"These members are good at impersonating the authorities. They can be anyone – policemen, Customs officers or any other officer – as long as they can cheat their victims out of their money.

"We believe they have been conducting classes for members so they can act better when posing as the authorities," he said.

Among the stories that these "authorities" tell when they called up their victims was that the victim's identity had been

stolen. The line would then be connected to "Bank Negara Malaysia" (BNM), which in truth, was another member of the syndicate posing as a BNM officer.

All calls are usually made using Voice Over Internet Protocol (VOIP), making them untraceable.

"There are also syndicate members posing as police officers and telling the victims that their son or daughter has been arrested for having drugs and requesting a payment so no action will be taken.

"The people are urged to report any suspicious calls they receive," he said.

On the so-called "Love Scam", Wazir said most victims were single women who were looking for partners.

"This kind of syndicate is adept at finding their victims, who are mainly women who do not take note of things happening in the country or the world. There have been many cases reported in the media, yet many women still fall for this scam."

Wazir advised the public to be more wary when on social media platforms.



**Superintendent
Mohd Wazir Mohd
Yusof**