



Headline: Civil servant loses RM1m in Macau scam

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## Civil servant loses RM1m in Macau scam

MIRI: A civil servant here lost RM1,096,800 after falling victim to the Macau scam early this month.

Sarawak Commercial Crime Investigation Department chief Supt Mustafa Kamal Gani Abdullah said the woman, 52, was contacted on May 7 by another woman named Syaifa Omar who claimed to be from the Terengganu court.

He said the victim was allegedly told by the woman that her bank account had been compromised for drug smuggling and money laundering totalling RM90,000.

The victim was then contacted by a man named Sufian Sulaiman

who warned her that her account would be frozen and advised her to open a new savings account and transfer her money to it.

The man also advised the victim to change her registered online banking contact number to the number given by him.

On the instructions of the man, the victim claimed she credited her whole savings of RM1,096,800 into the other account in stages from May 7 until May 20 through 18 transactions.

"The victim only realised that she had been cheated after checking her account through the automat-

ed teller machine (ATM) and found only RM21 in her balance," Mustafa Kamal said in a statement yesterday.

He cautioned the public against responding to calls from unidentified individuals and to contact 013-2111222 should they have any information on the Macau scam.

"The police or government agencies would never ask the public to bank in money or make payments such as summons through ATM to personal accounts," he said.

Mustafa said 63 Macau scam cases involving RM3.9 million were reported between Jan 1 and May 20, 2019, with 15 arrests. — *Bernama*