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Police: Scammers claiming to be from National Grid are taking people for hundreds of dollars

BY: John Tummino POSTED: 4:09 PM, Dec 27, 2017 TAG: cheektowaga | police | cheektowaga police | phone scam | national grid

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CHEEKTOWAGA, N.Y. (WKBW) - If you get a call from someone claiming to be from National Grid, who then demands you pay \$1,500, hang up. That's the message from Cheektowaga Police.

The department said at least two people have reported falling victim to the scam. They said the caller says heat will be shut off at the victim's location if the money is not paid today. Police said no utility companies conduct business this way.

Officers said victims were instructed to purchase prepaid gift cards, and give the caller the serial numbers over the phone. Now, one victim is out \$1,500. The other is out \$1,000.

Police said the scam has been more successful due to the bitter cold temperatures of late.

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