

# CHATHAM BOROUGH POLICE DEPARTMENT PRESS RELEASE

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## Computer Scam Advisory

In the interest of keeping the public informed, the Chatham Borough Police Department would like to make you aware of a trending computer scam.

In this particular scam, an individual calls and states that he or she is with Windows Security and they need to update your version of Windows operation system software. If you are not home at the time or do not answer, a message is left requesting that you call a specific phone number to initiate the update.

The motive behind the scam is for you to allow these individuals unrestricted access to your computer system. Once in your system, the individuals can encrypt files and then hold the files hostage until you pay a sizable ransom. The perpetrator can also obtain bank account information, personal information such as social security, dates of birth as well as other sensitive information.

If you receive such a call, **DO NOT** provided the caller with any system information and under **NO** circumstance should you allow them remote access into your computer system.

The FBI has a section devoted to investigating these types of scams. If you receive such a call, go to this website <https://www.ic3.gov/default.aspx> and file a report it.

**All persons charged with an offense are presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.**