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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Media Contact** 

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## Scam Targeting Permit Applicants Using Wire Transfer Requests

**ASTORIA, OR** — Clatsop County is alerting the public to a recent scam targeting individuals who have applied for permits. Scam callers or emails are posing as legitimate representatives and request payment via wire transfer.

Clatsop County does not request payment by wire transfer, cryptocurrency, gift cards, or unconventional methods. Official payments are only accepted through approved methods and official county channels.

Anyone who receives a suspicious payment request:

- Do not send payment
- Do not share personal or financial information
- Contact the appropriate county department directly using a verified phone number
- Report the scam to local law enforcement and the Federal Trade Commission at <u>reportfraud.ftc.gov</u>

If you believe you may have been targeted or have already made a payment, contact your financial institution immediately and report the incident as soon as possible.

Clatsop County takes these incidents seriously and encourages residents and businesses to remain vigilant.