Property foreclosure scam hits area

(KNZA)--The Brown County Sheriff's office is alerting residents of another new scam being reported locally.

Sheriff John Merchant says residents are receiving messages left on their answering machine stating they are about to have their property foreclosed. Residents are then given a California number to call back to satisfy the order of foreclosure.

Merchant says several residents said they knew it was a scam and did not respond.

However, he said one person then received a call from an individual following up on the automated call. The individual stated the resident owed back taxes on the property and unless immediate payment was made, the property would no longer belong to them and they would be evicted immediately.

The caller wanted bank account information to obtain a payment and also wanted a social security number for verification. At that point, the resident knew it was a scam and hung up the phone.

Merchant reminds residents to never give out any personal information over the phone or computer.

Many Signals Communications