

THE CONSTANT CORNER

THREATS BY TELEPHONE

I oftentimes hear from those in the community that they have been receiving threatening telephone calls from strangers. This is what they say about these calls:

Scenario: A telephone call comes in from a stranger telling you that you owe money. If you don't send them the money right away to pay back your debt, you will be reported to the Police Department, the FBI, and a lawsuit will be filed against you. The callers' voice becomes intimidating and loud, the language suddenly becomes insulting and demeaning, and the caller may even swear at you. Sometimes, the caller threatens physical violence or tells you that they're sending someone over to your home if you don't comply.

PLEASE DO NOT BE ALARMED. This type of call may be violating FEDERAL AND STATE LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY LAWS, RULES, or REGULATIONS. Corporate laws are being violated as well.

Plain and simple, it violates rules of conduct for every professional agency, and it is NOT ACCEPTABLE.

These threats are empty. They hold no power. They are USELESS.

Our self defense strategies include:

1. Buy a whistle and blow it into your telephone if an unknown person calls and suddenly becomes aggressive and threatening toward you because you're not complying with their demand.
2. Don't tell them you'll call the police. They don't care. JUST STOP RESPONDING TO THEM. HANG UP AND DON'T COMMUNICATE WITH THEM IN ANY WAY.
3. If they threaten you with physical violence, try to record the calls and report these threats to your local law enforcement agency. This will help to document all events for further investigation.

In most cases, scammers will not make any attempts to physically harm you; that would create too much attention on themselves.

DEFEND against this behavior by just HANGING UP IMMEDIATELY.

From the Desk of Jane Constant

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