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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Consumer Advisory

Beware of New "Debit Card" Scam

(Phoenix, Ariz. – October 23, 2008) Arizona Attorney General Terry Goddard today warned about fraudulent telephone calls being made to Arizona consumers from someone claiming to be from their bank. Consumers are told that their bank accounts have been compromised, and the account holders need to send in their debit cards to receive new, secure ones.

This is a scam!

The Attorney General's Office has received information that several people have received telephone calls of this kind. The caller further requests that consumers place their debit cards in an envelope outside their house or apartment for Federal Express to pick up within two or three days. The caller claims that a new card will be mailed to the consumer.

The following are tips for consumers to remember when receiving financial calls:

- Be wary of callers who insist on gathering personal information. Legitimate financial institutions will never ask for your personal or account information over the phone or by email.
- If you are being pressured, it is always reasonable to say no or hang up.
- Do not give out personal information, such as your Social Security number, bank account numbers or credit card numbers, to anyone you do not know.

If you believe you have been a victim this or other scams, please contact the Attorney General's Office in Phoenix at 602.542.5763, in Tucson at 520.628.6504 or outside the Phoenix and Tucson metro areas at 1.800.352.8431. To file a complaint in person, the Attorney General's Office has satellite offices throughout the state with volunteers available to help. Locations and hours of operation are posted on the attorney general's Web site. Consumers can also file complaints on line by visiting the Attorney General's Web site at www.azag.gov

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