



## **PRESS ALERT**

### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

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### **Wastewater Bill Phone Scam Continues**

**Olathe, KS, July 31, 2009** – Johnson County Wastewater (JCW) is warning residents about an ongoing telephone scam that seeks to steal banking and credit card information from wastewater customers.

JCW spokesperson Lori Sand said that several residents have reported receiving a phone call from someone posing as a JCW representative. The caller says the customer's check for wastewater payment isn't signed and asks the customer for credit or debit card information in order to keep the account in good standing.

Customers from at least two other area utilities are reporting they have received similar calls. Typically, the caller asks victims for account numbers and personal banking information for payment to keep from being assessed further charges or having their service shut off.

Sand said JCW does not call customers regarding unsigned checks. The check will either be processed by the bank, or returned to JCW, who will in turn return the check to the customer, by mail, accompanied by a letter explaining why the check was returned.

Should customers have any questions, they are encouraged to call JCW's customer service line at 913-715-8590.

County residents who receive such scam calls are asked to call their local police department.

Area cities, including Olathe and Lee's Summit, have reported similar scam calls.