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ODH WARNS OHIOANS ABOUT POTENTIAL SCAM

COLUMBUS – Four Ohioans have called the Ohio Department of Health (ODH) in the past two days to report a potential scam.

According to the callers, a man identifying himself as “Frank Williams” has contacted individuals and identified himself as an ODH employee. He goes on to say 2006 is ODH’s 50th anniversary and to celebrate, the agency is offering free health cards and a \$1,000 shopping spree to the person on the line. He then asks for the person’s bank account routing number for verification.

ODH, established in 1886, alerted the Ohio Highway Patrol about this potential scam on Friday.

“This person absolutely does not work for the Ohio Department of Health,” said ODH Director J. Nick Baird, M.D. “We urge Ohioans to be vigilant and not be victimized by this deception. Please do not offer any personal information to this caller”

Ohioans who feel they may have been targeted by this individual should contact the Ohio Attorney General’s Consumer Action Line at 1-800-282-0515 or visit the Web site at <http://www.ag.state.oh.us>.

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