



# 'One Ring' Phone Scam

If your phone rings once and then stops, think twice before returning the call - it may be a scam.

## How the Scam Works

Consumers receive calls from phone numbers with area codes that appear to be domestic but are international pay-per-call phone numbers. These calls often disconnect after one ring to try to tempt consumers to return the call to collect a fake prize, inquire about a "sick" relative, etc. If returned, the call connects to an international hotline that may charge significant per-minute fees.

## Tips to Avoid the Scam

- Check any unfamiliar area codes before returning calls.
- Be aware that many 3-digit area codes (mostly in the Caribbean) connect callers to international telephone numbers.
- If you do not make international calls, consider asking your local or wireless phone company to block outgoing international calls on your phone line.

