

OPP blitz produces nearly 700 charges against transport drivers

Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) laid a total 697 charges against transport truck drivers and took 63 trucks out of service during its Operation Corridor enforcement initiative on June 13 - 14. In partnership with the Ministry of Transportation, the OPP stopped a total of 1,692 trucks during the 24-hour blitz.

Speeding led the list of offences, with 226 charges being laid. Defective equipment ranked second at 176 charges (see complete list of charges below).

Other charges ranged from unsecured loads to distracted driving, reaffirming the OPP's commitment to its Commercial Motor Vehicle Collision Mitigation Strategy with the goal of saving lives on Ontario roads.

The OPP thanked the many safe transport truck drivers and other motorists who drove safely and helped keep our roads safe during the campaign.

The results: distracted driving charges, 28; speeding, 226; speed limiter charges, 38; following too close, 18; unsafe lane change, 10; move left charges, 4; other hazardous moving violations charges, 30; seatbelt charges, 107; equipment charges, 176; insecure load charges, 28; hours of services charges, 31; impaired driving charges, 0; other criminal offences, 1; number of out-of-service vehicles, 63; total number of vehicles stopped, 1,692.

Camper trailer stolen in Mulmur

On Tuesday, June 12, at 11:30 p.m., Dufferin OPP were dispatched to a residence on Jeffery Drive in Mulmur Township to investigate the report of a stolen camper trailer.

Further investigation by police revealed that the trailer was stolen between 7 p.m. Monday, June 11 and 2 p.m. June 12. It is described as a 2009 Rockwood ROO brand camper trailer white in colour with Ontario Trailer plate #H2067A.

If any person has any information in relation to this theft they are asked to contact the Dufferin OPP at (519)-925-3838.

OPP explains CRA scam

Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) want you to confirm who you're dealing with before sending any money anywhere for any reason.

The ever-popular Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) and other agency-related extortion threats have continued to sustain significant financial losses by unsuspecting victims in recent weeks. In 2017, the Extortion and Phishing Scam claimed 1,544 victims in Ontario, with about \$3 million being lost by 8,576 victims who filed complaints. Police believe only 5 percent of the crimes are actually reported.

In the typical CRA scam, the criminals extort money from their victims by telephone, mail, text message or email, a fraudulent communication that claims to be from the Canada Revenue Agency requesting personal information such as a social insurance number, credit card number, bank account number, or passport number. A new twist is that Fraudsters will leave a pre-recorded, clear message on your voicemail impersonating the real CRA.

Fraudsters are either phishing for your identification or asking that outstanding taxes be paid by a money service business or by pre-paid debit/credit cards. They may insist that this personal information is needed so that the taxpayer can receive a refund or a benefit payment.

Cases of fraudulent communication could also involve threatening or coercive language to scare individuals into paying fictitious debt to the CRA. Other communications such as texting, urge taxpayers to visit a fake CRA website where the taxpayer is then asked

to verify their identity by entering personal information.

Before you respond to any type of communication, think first that this is a scam. Individuals should never respond to these fraudulent communications nor click on any of the links provided.

Here are some warning signs:

Urgency-- The scammer always makes the request sound very urgent, which may cause the victim to not verify the story. For example, they may say "the police are on their way to arrest you."

Request for Money Transfer-- Money is usually requested to be sent by a money transfer company such as Money Gram, Western Union or even through your own bank institution.

The CRA will never request by email, text or phone, any personal information such as passport, credit card or bank account information.

To avoid becoming a victim, police advise you to hang up, check and verify the information with CRA by calling a trusted phone number in which you have found and not the number provided by the caller.

If you or someone you know suspect they've been a victim of the CRA scam, check with a Canada Revenue Agency official, and contact your local police service and the Canadian Anti-Fraud Centre, Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-8477 (TIPS), or online at <https://www.tipsubmit.com/start.htm>