











# Spot the red flags of Chinese Authority scams

## Beat the scammers by knowing the scam

NAB is aware of a rise in criminals targeting Chinese Australian communities and international students to extort money by impersonating Chinese government officials such as police or embassy. These scams use fear, intimidation and false threats to convince individuals into sending money and sharing personal information.

You can protect yourself, your family and friends by looking out for the red flags below:

## Spot the red flags

-  **Unexpected contact.** You receive a call or email from someone speaking Mandarin claiming that your identity has been used for criminal activity and there is an arrest warrant for you.
-  **Arrest Warrant.** You are sent fake arrest warrants and government IDs to prove the person is who they say they are. You are threatened with immediate arrest and deportation unless you pay money or provide your personal information.
-  **Threatened with criminal sanctions.** You are asked to pretend you have been kidnapped, and to take photos of yourself appearing to be kidnapped.
-  **Provide personal information.** You are asked to provide personal information such as your passport, copy of birth certificate and banking log in details.
-  **Pay a ransom.** You are contacted saying a loved one has been kidnapped and you need to pay a ransom or they may be harmed.
-  **Make a payment into a cryptocurrency wallet.** You are asked to move your money into cryptocurrency wallets, whilst you are being investigated and until you are proven innocent.
-  **Don't discuss this with anyone.** You are told not to discuss this matter with friends and family as you are under constant surveillance.
-  **Prove your innocence.** You must comply with all demands to “prove your innocence” and “avoid criminal charges”.

If you receive a call from someone making any of these threats or demands, it is a scam. Hang up the phone immediately and report it to your local police. If you have any concerns for your or your loved ones immediate safety, call 000.



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# Stop, Check, Protect

## to minimise your chance of being scammed



### Stop before you act

If you receive a call from someone claiming to be a Chinese government official, threatening you with deportation or criminal charges, **stop** to consider, could it be a scam? The caller may speak Mandarin and claim that your identity has been linked to serious criminal activity. They may threaten you with immediate arrest or extradition unless you comply and transfer money to clear charges or prove your identity. Don't act on the call.



### Check before you share

Don't hand over any personal information or transfer your money, remind yourself that law enforcement will not contact you in this way or demand money to prove your innocence. **Check** [Scamwatch.gov.au](https://scamwatch.gov.au) for the latest scams targeting Australians.



### Protect if you suspect

If you ever receive a call from someone threatening you with arrest or deportation, it is a scam. Hang up to **protect** yourself. Report it to your local police. If you have provided your banking details or suspect you've been scammed, call us on 13 22 65 or visit your nearest NAB branch immediately.

### Find out more

Visit [nab.com.au/security](https://nab.com.au/security).

