

San Francisco Police Arrests Blessing Scam Suspect 24-009(a)

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On January 23, 2024, at approximately 11:30 a.m. a blessing scam occurred where a victim was waiting by herself for the bus in the Excelsior District. The victim was approached by an unknown male who started a conversation with the victim. During the conversation, two unknown females joined them and helped convince the victim to retrieve her most valuable items from her home to be blessed. After the victim gathered the valuable items, a ceremony was conducted with the victim's valuables. The victim later discovered her valuables were gone.

On January 25, 2024, at approximately 4:00 p.m. a blessing scam occurred where a victim who was walking by herself in the outer Mission was approached by an unknown male and female. The two subjects started a conversation with the victim. As the conversation continued all parties walked into an alley where a second unknown female joined them. The suspects convinced the victim to gather her valuables to be blessed. The victim gathered US Currency and jewelry which was blessed by the suspects in a ceremony with the victim's valuables. The victim later discovered her valuables were switched with similar weighted items.

The SFPD Special Victims Unit (SVU) has led the investigations. Through the course of the investigation, SVU investigators were able to locate the vehicle used in the crimes and identify the suspects. Investigators developed probable cause to obtain a

search warrant for the suspect vehicle, which was located and seized. During the search of the vehicle, evidence was located and seized that was linked to both blessing scams.

Investigators also developed probable cause to obtain an arrest warrant for one of the suspects. On February 26, 2024, SVU investigators located the suspect, a 68-year-old male, Chen Kun Lo, in the Los Angeles area and arrested him without incident.

During the arrest, investigators found Lo in possession of items believed to be stolen from the blessing scam victims, as well as possession of child pornography. Lo was booked for the felony charges of possession of stolen property (496(a) PC) and possession of child pornography (311.11(a) PC).

Investigators have identified the other suspects who remain at large at this time.

While an arrest has been made, these investigations remain open and active. Anyone with information is asked to call the SFPD Tip Line at [1-415-575-4444](tel:1-415-575-4444) or Text a Tip to [TIP411](tel:415-575-4444) and begin the text message with SFPD. You may remain anonymous.

SFPD Incident # 240071099, 240064204, 240142719

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