



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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CONTACT: Xochitl Mora, Office of Communications, O: 681-1202 M: 662-9269 E: xmora@mcallen.net

AEP Scam in Downtown McAllen

The City of McAllen has been made aware of a scam that has targeted merchants. All McAllen residents and businesses are urged to be aware of someone posing as an AEP representative, stating that meters need to be changed for a \$900 fee. Victims are given a phone number to call that takes them to an alleged AEP customer service representative, who states that they can give their bank information over the phone or pay the person in front of them to complete the required service.

Merchants and residents should be aware that this is not AEP standard operating practice, nor will it take payment in person or over the phone from customers regarding meters or for any other service calls. Anyone who has questions regarding their electric bill or service should contact their retail electric provider to the phone number shown on their monthly electricity bill. Calling a number left on a phone message or provided by a person at the door may connect residents and merchants with the scammers.

If anyone contacts a business or homeowner, please contact McAllen Police Department at 9-1-1. For safety, please do not attempt to detain the individual.

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