



# BROOME COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Sheriff Frederick J. Akshar II

Undersheriff Sammy L. Davis

155 Lt. Van Winkle Drive, Binghamton, NY 13905

**For Immediate Release:**

May 3, 2024

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## **BROOME COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE PRESS RELEASE** **BCSO Assists in Capturing Scammer Who Stole \$36,000**

(TOWN OF DICKINSON, NY) An Indian national was arrested in the Town of Dickinson for scamming a senior citizen out of \$36,000.

On May 1, 2024, the Village of Liberty, NY Police Department began investigating a report of an elaborate scam that stole \$36,000 from a 76-year-old Liberty resident. The victim observed what appeared to be a virus on her computer, and shortly thereafter received a phone call from a man stating he worked for an antivirus company and would help her. The male instructed her to withdraw money from her bank account so that it would not get hacked or stolen due to the virus. The female did as she was told, taking \$36,000 out of her bank account in cash. The male then arrived at her residence where she handed the money over to the male for safe keeping to ostensibly deposit into another safer bank account.

Investigators were able to track the suspect, Himichal Sagar, age 43 of India, via his rental car to a hotel on Prospect St. in the Town of Dickinson. While en route to that location, investigators contacted the Broome County Sheriff's Office requesting assistance.

Broome County Sheriff's deputies were able to locate and detain Sagar until Liberty Police arrived to make the arrest. During the investigation, the full \$36,000 was recovered in the hotel room.

Sagar transported to the Village of Liberty Police Department and charged with Grand Larceny in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Degree, a Class D Felony. Per New York State law, Sagar was released with an appearance ticket, but was ordered to surrender his passport to the court.

Liberty Chief of Police Steven D'Agata stated, "It is because of the hard work and rapid investigation by the officers and detectives that worked on this case that we were able hold this offender accountable and recover the victim's money. I would like to thank our law enforcement partners in Broome County for the immediate assistance in this investigation. It is often the case that the international nature of these scams prevents us from making arrests and recovering

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**General Information:**  
(607) 778-1911

**Fiscal:**  
(607) 778-2928

**Garnishees:**  
(607) 778-2926

**Civil:**  
(607) 778-2145

**Identification:**  
(607) 778-2924

**Records:**  
(607) 778-2166

proceeds. All community members need to be vigilant about their online interactions and banking security. When in doubt please call your local police agency immediately.”

Broome County Sheriff Fred Akshar said, “I’m proud of our Law Enforcement Division’s diligence and their quick response to help our colleagues from Liberty PD find this scammer in our community and bring him to justice. These insidious scams target seniors throughout our community and our nation, and our collective vigilance and cooperation between law enforcement and our community are our most valuable tools to combat them.”

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