

Phone Calls From These Area Codes May Be a Scam. Do not call or text back!

Phone call scams have become so common that most of us don't bother even picking up when we don't recognize the number. However, as we grow warier, scammers get savvier and find ways to get our attention. Inc.com lists some area codes you might want to watch out for.

The scam is dubbed the "473 Scam." The caller either lets the phone ring once, sends a distressing text, or leaves a prerecorded message making the recipient believe someone is in danger. The point? To get you to call back. Inc.com reports: The name "473 scam" comes from the fact that criminals have been known to use caller IDs with the area code 473—which appears to be domestic, but is actually the area code for the island of Grenada and several other islands outside the United States that, like the U.S., use country code +1... Also, the criminals perpetrating 473 scams often establish premium numbers—the equivalent of the 900 numbers that were popular in the United States in the pre-internet era. Calls to such numbers can sometimes cost more than \$20 for the first minute!

In addition to 473, here are some other common area codes scammers use.

242 — Bahamas;	809, 829, and 849 — Dominican Republic	868 — Trinidad and Tobago
441 — Bermuda	264 — Anguilla	268 — Antigua
784 — St. Vincent and Grenadines	649 — Turks and Caicos	664 — Montserrat
246 — Barbados	900 — U.S	976 — Canada

For more detail and the full list, head to the links: http://www.inc.com/joseph-steinberg/do-not-return-calls-or-texts-from-these-area-codes-its-a-scam.html

FCC warns consumers about new 'Yes' phone scam

The Federal Communications Commission is warning consumers about a new scam that is hooking consumers with just one word: **Yes**.

According to the FCC, the scam begins as soon as a person answers the phone. A recorded voice or an actual person asks: "Can you hear me?" And the consumer responds, "Yes."

"The caller then records the consumer's 'Yes' response and thus obtains a voice signature. This signature can later be used by the scammers to pretend to be the consumer and authorize fraudulent charges via telephone," an FCC news release said. The FCC also shared the following tips:

1. Don't answer calls from unknown numbers. Let them go to voicemail.

2. If you answer and the caller (often a recording) asks you to hit a button to stop receiving calls, just hang up. Scammers often use these tricks to identify, and then target, live respondents.

3. If you receive a scam call, write down the number and file a complaint with the FCC so we can help identify and take

appropriate action to help consumers targeted by illegal callers.

4. Ask your phone service provider if it offers a robocall blocking service. If not, encourage your provider to offer one. You can also visit the FCC's website for information and resources on available robocall blocking tools to help reduce unwanted calls. Consider registering all of your telephone numbers in the **National Do Not Call Registry**.

For more detail, head to the links: https://gma.yahoo.com/fcc-warns-consumers-yes-phone-scam-233916329--abc-news-topstories.html?soc src=mail&soc trk=ma#

For more information about crime in your area contact:

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