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Press Release

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New York Man Pleads Guilty to Attempted Theft by Deception for Role in PayPal Scam

Concord, NH – Attorney General John M. Formella announces that Didi Huang, age 48, of Brooklyn, New York, has pled guilty in Rockingham Superior Court to one felony count of attempted theft by deception for his role in a PayPal scam that targeted an elderly Seabrook woman.

As part of a negotiated resolution, Huang was sentenced to serve 12 months in the House of Corrections. The court also ordered Huang to have no contact with the victim and prohibited him from working in any capacity with elderly, disabled, or impaired adults.

The investigation revealed that the victim was contacted by someone pretending to work for PayPal. The caller falsely claimed that the victim owed PayPal money and instructed her to withdraw $20,000 in cash from her bank. The caller told the victim to lie to anyone who asked what the money was for, warning that she would otherwise lose access to her financial accounts. After the victim obtained the cash, the caller told her that a PayPal representative would come to her home to collect it.

Later that evening, Mr. Huang and another individual traveled to the victim's home. Before they arrived, one of the victim's family members recognized the scam and alerted the Seabrook Police Department. Mr. Huang and the other individual, neither of whom worked for PayPal, were arrested upon arrival and each charged with one felony count of attempted theft by deception.

The Seabrook Police Department investigated the case with assistance from Robert Sullivan of the New Hampshire Department of Justice. The case was prosecuted by the New Hampshire Department of Justice Elder Abuse and Financial Exploitation Unit.

This scam was stopped because a family member of the victim recognized the signs of the scam and acted quickly. If you or someone you know may be a victim of elder abuse or financial exploitation, contact your local police department or the New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services, Bureau of Adult and Aging Services (www.nheasy.nh.gov).