

March 13, 2026

TO: Campus Community

FR: Nader Oweis, Chief of Police

RE: Crime Alert Bulletin: Extortion Scam (SS26-39 518 PC)

REPORTED CRIME: The Sonoma State University Police Department is investigating a report of a student who has become the victim of an extortion scam. The scammers reached out to a student via an unsolicited text, threatening the student with compromised personal information to induce fear and demanding money. It is believed that the scammers are from outside the United States.

If you know something: Anyone with information that might assist with this investigation is urged to call the Sonoma State University Police Department at 707-664-4444.

The Sonoma State University Police Department reminds the campus community of the following safety tips:

- If you are a victim of these scammers with financial loss, you are encouraged to file a report by calling the Sonoma State University Police Department Non-Emergency line at (707) 664-4444. Victims may also file reports with [FBI Internet Crime Complaint Center \(IC3\)](#) (for all internet-related crimes), as well with as the [Federal Trade Commission \(FTC\)](#) (to report general fraud and scams).
- Do not send money or provide personal/financial information to unknown or unverified callers/texts.
- Refuse payment demands if you receive a suspicious call or text.

You are not at fault for any harm done to you. The above safety tips are not intended to imply otherwise.

SUPPORT RESOURCES: [Counseling and Psychological Services \(CAPS\)](#) is available for any student seeking support at 707-664-2153. Our [Employee Assistance Program](#), LifeMatters by Empathia, is available for any staff and faculty seeking support. A [Confidential Advocate](#) is also available at 707-664-2698. Another resource is the [Office for the Prevention of Harassment and Discrimination \(OPHD\)](#) which can provide supportive measures and receive complaints related to sexual misconduct, harassment, and discrimination on behalf of the university. OPHD can be reached at 707-664-4140.