

MAYOR JACK BATCHELOR  
VICE MAYOR STEVEN BIRD  
COUNCILMEMBER JERRY CASTAÑON, SR.



COUNCILMEMBER TED HICKMAN  
COUNCILMEMBER SCOTT PEDERSON  
CITY TREASURER DANE BESNEATTE

**For Immediate Release:**  
April 15, 2016

**Contact:** Douglas White  
City Attorney, City of Dixon  
(916) 675-2420

## **City of Dixon Investigates Attempted Fraud**

### *Thwarted Scheme to Divert Electronic Vendor Payment*

Dixon, CA --Earlier this week, the City of Dixon discovered a sophisticated criminal attempt to divert a vendor's electronic fund transfer into a fraudulently held bank account. Upon being made aware of the situation, the City took immediate action to get these public funds returned prior to the transfer being completed. We can confirm that all money involved has been returned to the City's bank account.

In addition to launching its own investigation, city officials have been in contact with the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) and will fully cooperate with all local, state and federal law enforcement officials in this matter.

"Fortunately, we were able to prevent a very sophisticated attempt to steal public funds. We take the criminal activity involved very seriously. The City of Dixon is actively conducting a thorough internal investigation and will cooperate fully with local, state and federal law enforcement officials to identify the individual or individuals behind this attempted electronic theft," said Douglas White, City Attorney.

The City has already implemented a top-to-bottom review of its billing policies and procedures to identify enhancements to existing protocols. The City will also engage with Cyber security experts to audit the City's digital security and make recommendations on further enhancements to protect City IT systems.

"Due to the on-going nature of our investigation, there is nothing more we can share at this time. However, based on initial evidence, we do know the parties responsible for this attempted electronic fraud were very sophisticated," continued White.

Anyone with knowledge of this crime is encouraged to contact the City's Acting Chief of Police, Ron Willingmyre, at (707) 678 7070.

###

Douglas White

**City of Dixon**

600 East A Street • Dixon, California • 95620-3697  
(707) 678-7000 • FAX (707) 678-0960 • TTY (707) 678-1489