



# Simsbury Police Department

*"In Partnership With Our Community"*



July 17, 2014

## **Chimney Inspection and Repair Scam**

Chimney repair and chimney cleaning scams are on the rise. Since most people know nothing about chimneys, this is a particularly easy way for scammers to cheat unsuspecting homeowners. Individuals may receive a phone call from someone identifying themselves as an employee of the Fire Department regarding the dangers of carbon monoxide. The scammer may then offer you a chimney inspection to make sure there are no leaks and the chimney is safe. They may also offer a low price for the inspection and then tell you that you need repairs before you can use the chimney again.

If you suspect that you are the subject of this or a similar scam, take the time to verify the information that you are told. In the town of Simsbury, the Fire Department does not conduct chimney inspections nor do they make cold calls to residents regarding chimney or carbon monoxide dangers. Note the information that the fraudulent caller has provided to you (call identification, call back number, name, address, e-mail, etc.), and call your local police department.