



## **Warning Issued For Unclaimed Money Scams**

Aired: July 10, 2007

We brought you a story a few weeks ago about how to search for unclaimed money. Now Vermont state treasurer Jeb Spaulding is warning the public about unclaimed money schemes.

Several people contacted the state treasurer saying they have gotten e-mails or postcards with offers to help them find unclaimed money for a fee.

Spaulding said some of the offers are legitimate, but others are not. For instance, he said it's illegal in Vermont for any company to charge a fee of more than 10 percent of the dollar value you are owed. He said other schemes ask you to call a number with an 809 area code. That number is outside the U.S., so people are charged international call rates and they often rack up a substantial bill.

The treasurer says the state is now holding more than \$42 million in unclaimed money.