

## **Offer for Cancun Time Share Results in Swindling \$4,000+ from Darien Woman**

**Author :** David Gurliacci

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A 65-year-old Darien woman contacted by a man who claimed to work for a n "Internet Real Estate Sales" company who initially offered to buy her time-share property in Cancun wound up getting \$4,244 from the woman, who never saw her money again, according to police.

Darien gave this explanation of what happened:

In April 2017, the woman was contacted by an "Andrew Castro," who offered her much more for the time share than her original purchase price. After emails were exchanged, Castro referred her to an entity he called "West United LLC," where she started corresponding with a "Brian Montez."

The police report does not say how an offer to pay her money turned into a situation in which she was sending money to strangers, but that's what police say happened. In return for the money, she received a purported escrow agreement.

After the money was wired, the woman realized the transaction was part of a scam. Police were contacted on Friday, Aug. 4. Darien police detectives are investigating the matter.

Police issued this statement:

Residents are again reminded to be extremely wary of unsolicited offers to transact business over the Internet and especially in wiring money to non-vetted businesses or persons.