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Retiree duped of RM1.4mil

Woman only realised she was scammed three years later

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IPOH: A 62-year-old retiree has been waiting to meet an “assistant superintendent of police” whom she gave RM1.4mil to in 2020, not realising it was a phone scam.

The woman from Taman Wah Keong here only realised she had been cheated after failing to meet face-to-face with the so-called police officer after three years.

The woman, who used to work

in Singapore, received a call from a stranger who claimed to be from a courier service company on March 27, 2020.

Perak police chief Comm Datuk Seri Mohd Yusof Hassan Basri said the woman was informed about an issue with a parcel for her.

“The scammer gave the woman a contact number, purportedly to be of the Sabah police so she could verify the matter herself.

“The victim called the number given and was accused by ‘police

officers’ of being involved in money laundering and drugs,” he said in a statement yesterday.

“The scammer also claimed that an arrest warrant has been issued for her,” he said, adding the victim had communicated with five suspects.

“She revealed all her personal banking and e-wallet details to the scammers. She also followed instructions to transfer money from her bank account to several others.

“This went on until April 21,

2020,” he added.

“The victim had believed that a ‘police assistant superintendent’ she was in contact with was real and had been waiting to meet with him in Ipoh since 2020.

“Having lost her patience, the woman lodged a report on Tuesday,” he said.

“The woman lost about RM1.4mil, including cryptocurrency,” he said.

The case is being investigated under Section 420 of the Penal Code.