

WARNING! Jury Duty Phone Scam

The U.S. Marshals Service is warning the public of a nationwide telephone scam involving individuals claiming to be U.S. marshals, court officers or law enforcement officials seeking to collect a fine in lieu of arrest for failing to report for jury duty. This scam differs from previous incidents where callers would arrange payment of fines over the phone for failure to appear. In order to appear more credible, the scammers may provide information like a badge number and the names of actual federal judges and courthouse addresses. Victims are told they can avoid arrest by paying a fine using a reloadable credit card, and urged to call a number and provide their own credit card number to initiate the process.

The U.S. Marshals Service said it does not call anyone to arrange payment of fines over the phone for failure to appear for jury duty or any other infraction. They urge the public not to divulge personal or financial information to unknown callers, even if they sound legitimate.

If you believe you were a victim of the jury duty scam, you are encouraged to report the incident to your local law enforcement department, or local U.S. Marshals or FBI office.