

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
DISTRICT OF NEBRASKA
OFFICE OF THE CLERK**
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PUBLIC ALERT

SCAM E-MAILS ABOUT PHONY COURT CASES CARRY COMPUTER VIRUS

The federal judiciary has learned of an e-mail scam, in which e-mails purporting to come from federal and state courts are infecting recipients' computers with computer viruses. According to the Security Operations Center of the Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts, the e-mails instruct recipients to report to a hearing on a specified day and time. The e-mails also instruct recipients to review an attached document for detailed case information. When the attachments or links in the e-mail are opened, a malicious program is launched that infects the recipient's computer. Several state courts have reported similar schemes, and also are warning the public about potential computer viruses.

As a rule, the general public will never receive unsolicited court documents electronically. Three main exceptions exist:

- Attorneys actively involved in federal court cases consent to receive court notifications electronically.
- Prospective and current jurors may receive e-mail communications from the court's jury administrators about their jury service.
- Vendors may receive e-mail communications from court procurement staff.

If you receive an e-mail regarding a federal court case or matter of which you are unaware, do not open any links or attachments in the e-mail. Instead, please contact the court at one of the telephone numbers listed below.