

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

Denise M. Lucks
Clerk of Court

www.ned.uscourts.gov

Gabriela Acosta
Chief Deputy Clerk

**WARNING
JURY SCAMS REGARDING JURY SERVICE MAY LEAD TO FRAUD**

Jury duty is a vital civic responsibility and should be taken seriously by all citizens. Sadly, citizens have reported receiving phone calls, text messages, emails, and mail with threats of prosecution for failing to comply with jury service that are not valid communications from a federal court. It is a crime for anyone to falsely represent himself or herself as a federal court official.

The U.S. District Court for the District of Nebraska wants citizens to know that federal courts do not require prospective jurors to provide social security numbers, credit card numbers, or any other sensitive information over the phone, through text messages, or emails. The initial contact between a federal court and a prospective juror will be through the U.S. Mail. The courts will never assess a fine or penalty for failing to appear for jury service without first having the person appear before a judge.

The following jury scams have been reported:

- Citizens have received telephone calls threatening a fine for shirking jury service to coerce those called into providing confidential data, potentially leading to identity theft and fraud. These calls are not from real court officials.
- Juror phishing email scams are also on the rise. Recipients are asked to provide personal identifiers (social security number, date of birth, mother's maiden name, etc.) on an attached form and email back to the originator. District courts never request personal identification information be returned in an email response. Our requests to complete a qualification questionnaire are initiated by formal written correspondence that provide instructions for the juror and are authenticated over a secure connection.
- Citizens have received fictitious criminal arrest warrants or appearance bonds. The message offers them a chance to avoid arrest through the payment of a specific amount.

Citizens receiving suspicious telephone calls, text messages, emails, or fictitious arrest warrants or appearance bonds should not provide the requested information nor should any money, Moneypack, cash card, Green Dot card or similar be provided; instead please contact the Clerk of Court's office at 402-661-7350. In addition, persons receiving such jury scams are encouraged to report these to the Federal Bureau of Investigation at 402-493-8688 to formally document the complaint.

For more information about federal jury service, please go to the court's web site, <http://www.ned.uscourts.gov/juror>.

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Omaha: (402) 661-7350 | Fax: (402) 661-7387 | Toll Free: (866) 220-4381
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