



NEWS RELEASE

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Citizens of Idaho Continue to be Targets of Telephone Scammers

Threatened with Federal Prosecution, Fines, Arrest for Failing to Comply with Jury Service

BOISE — The U.S. District Courts in Idaho issued a release in October 2013 advising citizens of Idaho to be aware of telephone calls from individuals threatening federal prosecution for failing to comply with jury service. During the call, unsuspecting citizens are given choices to come to the courthouse and pay a fine, have a hearing, or be arrested if they do not pay. Because the telephone calls are continuing to occur, the United States Marshals Service is concerned that the public be made aware of these scam calls. The federal courts do not require potential jurors to pay fines or provide sensitive financial information over the telephone.

It was recently reported that an Idaho citizen went to a business in Coeur d'Alene to obtain a money order for several thousand dollars in response to a bogus call about Federal Jury Duty. In another instance, a person targeted in Boise went to the Federal Courthouse to pay the "fine." The United States Marshals Service is looking into this matter.

Persons receiving such a telephone call are cautioned not to provide the requested information. They should notify the Clerk of Court's office of the United States District Court or State Court in their area.

It is a crime for an individual to falsely represent himself or herself as a federal court official or Deputy United States Marshal. Accordingly, this scam and any similar fraudulent conduct will be investigated by the United States Marshals Service, in partnership with the FBI.

More information on this subject is available on the U.S. Courts website:
<http://www.uscourts.gov/FederalCourts/JuryService/JurorScams.aspx>

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