



## NEWS RELEASE

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Contact: DUSM Amanda Lyons  
Columbia, SC 803-765-5479  
USMS Office of Public Affairs, 202-307-9065

## **U.S. Marshals Warn Public of Jury Duty Phone Scams**

**Columbia, SC** – 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. The U.S. Marshals Service does not call anyone to arrange payment of fines over the phone for failure to appear for jury duty or any other infraction.

In order to appear more credible, the scammers may even provide information like badge numbers and the names of actual federal judges and courthouse addresses. Victims have been told they can avoid arrest by paying a fine using a reloadable credit card, and were urged to call a number and provide their own credit card number to initiate the process. The Marshals Service urges 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 (803) 765-5821 or FBI office (803) 551-4200.

Additional information about the U.S. Marshals Service can be found at <http://www.usmarshals.gov>.

[www.usmarshals.gov](http://www.usmarshals.gov)

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