UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT NORTHERN DISTRICT OF ALABAMA

GREER M. LYNCH
CLERK OF COURT

R. DAVID PROCTOR
CHIEF JUDGE

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

Re: INCREASE IN JUROR SCAM ACTIVITY

The U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Alabama was alerted to a recent increase in scam phone calls threatening prosecution for failure to appear for jury service - including fines, possible incarceration, and a demand for money to avoid arrest. In some cases, the caller represents themselves as law enforcement or a U.S. Marshal and already has some personal information, which leads potential victims to believe the call is legitimate. These calls and emails are fraudulent and are not connected with the U.S. District Court.

Initial contact between the U.S. District Court and a prospective juror is always through the U.S. Mail system. Jury staff do not request payment information or collect funds. If any member of the public is concerned about the validity of a request for information or payment, they can visit the U.S. District Court Clerk's Office in-person in either Birmingham or Huntsville or call one of the numbers listed below to verify that a payment is required, the amount, and any deadline.

Members of the public should be wary of any request for personal information over the phone or by email. If you receive a call requesting personal information or a payment related to jury service, please notify the Clerk's Office by email at JuryScamReporting@alnd.uscourts.gov. Additionally, individuals receiving concerning calls and potential victims of a jury scam may file a complaint with the Internet Crime Complaint Center of the Federal Bureau of Investigation and/or report the fraudulent activity to the Federal Trade Commission.

Jury duty is a vital civic responsibility and should be taken seriously by all citizens. However, it is a crime for someone to falsely represent themself as a federal official.

For more information, read this U.S. Marshals Service Press Release: <u>U.S. Marshals, FBI Urge</u> Public: Report Phone Scams and visit the U.S. Courts Juror Scams webpage.

Date Posted: February 2, 2024