

Federal Court Warns Public of Phone Scam

CHICAGO, IL – The Clerk of the United States District Court is warning the public of a telephone scam in which a caller threatens arrest unless thousands of dollars are deposited at a kiosk.

The Clerk's Office has received reports that a caller has been contacting individuals notifying them that they failed to respond to a Grand Jury subpoena issued by the Chief Judge of the United States District Court. The caller then goes on to say that they must come to 2700 South California Avenue in Chicago, which is the main entrance to Cook County Jail, and deposit \$9,500 into a kiosk. Failure to do so would lead to their arrest. The caller may have the individual's personal information to make the scam appear more legitimate.

The public should be aware that these calls are a scam. The Sheriff's Office does not handle payments for the federal court system, and no government agency requires individuals to make payments at the Cook County Jail or to any individual. The Chief Judge has not issued these subpoenas.

The public is advised that if they receive a call from someone claiming to be with law enforcement or with the court system, to get the caller's full name, badge number, and phone number. Do not follow the caller's instructions. Instead, call the department they claim to be from to determine if there is a reason for contact.

Anyone who has information about this scam, or believes they are victim, is asked to call Cook County Sheriff's Police at 847-635-1188. To inform the Northern District Court of Illinois of a potential scam, please email: events@ilnd.uscourts.gov.