



# United States Courts for the District of Idaho

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## NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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## Fraudulent Phone Calls/Texts Regarding Arrest Warrants and False Claims Regarding Jury Summons

**Boise, Idaho** –The United States District Court for the District of Idaho has been notified of scammers who are contacting citizens claiming to be law enforcement officers. The scammer informs the target that they failed to appear for a court hearing/jury duty and has an arrest warrant pending. THESE SCAMMERS ARE VERY PERSUASIVE.

The name given by the scammer may be an actual employee or member of the law enforcement/legal community, which helps the scammer legitimize their threats. The scammer then attempts to confirm an email address with the target, and once confirmed the scammer sends the target a variety of documents purportedly signed by a judge, including an Order of Arrest. The judge's name may be an actual federal judge. The scammer may eventually ask for personal identifiers or for immediate payment of fines, but this information is not always made during the initial contact. While court and jury related scam calls and emails have been occurring for several years in Idaho, this is the first report the District of Idaho has received in which documents purportedly signed by a judge are sent to the target.

The U.S. District Court will never ask for sensitive information in an unsolicited phone call or email and will not assess a fine or penalty for failure to appear in federal court without first having the person appear before a judge.

**The sure step for anyone receiving such a call is to tell the caller that you're going to the United States Courthouse and will meet them at the security checkpoint, the last place the scammer would want you to go.** In addition, anyone who receives a call that feels suspicious, the individual may also contact the United States District Court at 208-334-1371 to verify that there are no matters pending before the court in their name.

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