



PRESS RELEASE

Beware of Jury Duty Scam and Other Scams

The St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office is receiving reports of scammers making telephone calls impersonating member(s) of our agency threatening citizens with arrests, claiming they have missed jury duty or have warrants for their arrest.

The St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office will not call you regarding jury duty or seeking funds for arrest warrants. The St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office will also not call you demanding funds be paid in lieu of arrests.

Some of the scams may seem legitimate as the numbers calling appear to be from St. Mary's County Government or the St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office. This is known as caller ID spoofing and happens when the caller deliberately falsifies the information received on your caller ID to disguise their identity.

The caller then provides the name of an employee and advises there is a warrant for the recipient for failure to pay civil fines and instructs the individual to bring cash to the St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office. The caller will sometimes advise of the possibility of being arrested while traveling to the Sheriff's Office and to avoid this the citizen is instructed to pay the fines utilizing gift cards or a kiosk.

The St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office reminds citizens no law enforcement agency will contact you to solicit payment for fines and warrants, and will not ask for payments with gift cards.

If you have been the victim of a scam and wish to file a report please contact the St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office at 301-475-8008 or online at <https://www.firstsheriff.com/citizenreport/>

For official news and information, follow the St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office on Twitter
@firstsheriff.

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SMCSO FORM #44 (R03/08)