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Scam Alert – Jury Duty

by Stacie Harris, Economic Crimes Unit

The scammer calls claiming to work for the local court and claims you've failed to report for jury duty. He or she tells you that a warrant has been issued for your arrest. The victim will often rightly claim they never received the jury duty notification. The scammer then asks the victim for confidential information for "verification" purposes. Specifically, the scammer asks for the victim's Social Security number, birth date and sometimes even for credit card numbers and other private information – exactly what the scammer needs to commit identity theft. The victim is clearly caught off guard and is understandably upset at the prospect of a warrant being issued for his or her arrest.

Court workers will never call you to ask for social security numbers and other private information. Most courts follow up via postal mail and rarely, if ever, call prospective jurors. If you have already been contacted and have given out your personal information, please monitor your account statements and credit reports and contact my office for further instructions on how to safeguard your identity. The best rule of thumb is to never give out your social security number, or any other personal confidential information, when you receive a telephone call.

***IDENTIFY A SCAM
BEFORE A SCAM IDENTIFIES YOU!***