

Jury Duty Scam Could Lead to Identity Theft

Has anyone called recently letting you know that you missed jury duty?

Warning, it could be a scam.

Clever thieves continue to deceive innocent victims with intentions of stealing an individual's identity, and the jury duty scam is one of the latest.

Other states are reporting that a person claiming to be a Clerk's Office employee is calling innocent people telling them that a jury summons in their name has gone unanswered, and that an arrest warrant has been issued. The caller then suggests he or she can verify the arrest warrant if the unsuspecting person will provide some personal identifying information, such as social security number, birth date, or credit card number. Much of this information can easily be used to commit identity theft.

"While this scam has not reached Citrus County, if you ever experience this type call, hang up and call my office immediately," stated Hon. Betty Strifler Clerk of the Court. "The Clerk's Office does not call summoned jurors. Please do not give out your personal information to anyone you don't know."

It is only natural that a person may be inclined to give out personal information under the threat of an arrest, but in reality, court officials will never request personal information over the phone.

This scam has been reported in many states, and many more innocent victims could be at risk if they are not aware of this threat.

For more information please contact the Courtroom Clerk Jury Department at the Clerk's Office at 341-6405.