UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT NORTHERN DISTRICT OF INDIANA

Philip P. Simon, Chief Judge Robert N. Trgovich, Clerk of Court



Notice About Email and Phone Scams

Throughout the country, the public regularly receives a variety of emails and phone calls purporting to come from federal and state courts requesting personal information, demanding payment of federal fines or tax debts, or threatening arrest or jail time. The recipient is told that failure to comply will result in an arrest warrant being issued. The scammer may use the name of a court employee to convince targeted people the scam is legitimate.

Please be advised that Federal Courts will not request payments or threaten arrest over the phone. The District Court advises anyone contacted by suspected scammers not to make any payments or provide confidential information.

There are several warning signs the emails or phone calls are scams:

- No Court or law enforcement agency will call to request payment for a fine for failure to appear for jury duty.
- Social security numbers are never requested.
- Ask for credit or debit card numbers over the phone.
- Threaten to bring in local police or other law-enforcement to have you arrested.

Detailed information about continuing scams can be found at:

Juror Scams
Scam Targets Bankruptcy Filers
Scam Emails About Phony Court Cases
Arrest Warrant Scam

For additional information about common fraud schemes, the FBI maintains a comprehensive list of frauds from A to Z. Navigate to https://www.fbi.gov/scams-safety/frauds-from-a-to-z for a complete list.

Information about collection of tax debts are handled by the Internal Revenue Service and additional information about their collection process is available at https://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/p594.pdf.