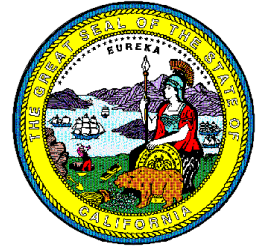


Superior Court of California County of Fresno



NEWS RELEASE

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
September 9, 2022**

**For More Information, Please Contact:
Kelly Pelletier, Media Coordinator
(559) 457-1980
kpelletier@fresno.courts.ca.gov**

ALERT REGARDING FRAUDULENT CALLS TO THE PUBLIC

The Fresno Superior Court has been alerted to calls received by members of the public from someone purporting to be from the Fresno Police Department. The fraudulent caller informs the resident that they have failed to respond to their jury summons and, as a result, a warrant has been issued for their arrest. The caller also states that the arrest is imminent unless the resident pays a fee. The caller has personal information about the resident, e.g., their name, date of birth, and Social Security number.

The Fresno Superior Court again reminds the public that neither the court nor any law enforcement agency calls county residents who do not respond to jury summons. Neither do we maintain Social Security numbers or dates of birth. On rare occasions, the court does follow up by phone when jurors who are seated on trial juries fail to report to their assigned courtrooms, as the cases cannot proceed without entire juries present.

Scams regarding failure to appear for jury summons occur regularly and vary in the types of threats. They are often designed to collect payment and/or leave a residence unattended for potential burglary. Commonly reported threats include

claims that persons will be arrested or arrest warrants issued for them if they do not comply.

Persons receiving calls from individuals stating they are telephoning from the court or a local law enforcement agency are warned not to give out any personal information over the phone. If they think the calls may be legitimate, they are advised to either contact the law enforcement agency or the court's juror office directly after obtaining contact information independently from the court's website, www.fresno.courts.ca.gov. In addition, residents should report fraudulent calls to their local law enforcement agencies.

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