



Robert R. Snaza
Sheriff

OFFICE OF THE LEWIS COUNTY **SHERIFF**

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"Public Safety through Professional Service"

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PRESS RELEASE

Date/Time: 09-19-23 @ 1400 Hours
Contact: Chief Dusty Breen
Phone: (360) 748-9286
Release #: 1

Fraud Scam Involving Lewis County Sheriff's Office

The Lewis County Sheriff's Office and Lewis County Superior Court have both been contacted by individuals advising they have recently been contacted via phone by someone purporting to be an employee of the Lewis County Sheriff's Office. These calls have been an attempt to gain personal information, or an attempt for financial gain by advising the recipients they have a warrant out for their arrest for missing jury duty. The jury duty scam calls often involve the caller explaining a process in which the recipient needs to send funds in order to resolve the issued warrant, and will often tell the individual not to contact law enforcement as they will be arrested on the warrant.

These scams are often conducted by utilizing internet-based applications to display local phone numbers or simply providing a fictitious or copied phone number. While this type of scam has been prevalent over the last decade, recent callers have identified themselves as actual current employees of the Lewis County Sheriff's Office. Our office, as well as the courts, do not use these tactics to resolve jury duty related issues. Furthermore, employees of our agency will not attempt to have an individual provide funds in order to resolve an issued warrant.

We are asking the public to remain vigilant to the ever-increasing amount of scams via telephone and internet. If you are contacted by someone from a government agency and believe it seems suspicious, it is recommended you find independent contact information for the agency and contact them directly. Additionally, we recommend the public not share any personal identifying information with anyone whom they are not certain of their identity.

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Lewis County Sheriff's Office Mission Statement:

Being a committed community partner, providing professional service to enhance the safety, security, and quality of life in Lewis County.