

UNIVERSITY OF HARTFORD

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

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U.S. ATTORNEY AGAIN WARNS - CONNECTICUT RESIDENTS OF JURY DUTY SCAM - Deirdre M. Daly, United States

Attorney for the District of Connecticut, announced that a "Jury Duty Scam" has again been reported in Connecticut. The Clerk's Office for the U.S. District Court for the District of Connecticut recently learned that three people reported that they received a call from a man falsely identifying himself as "Lt. Steve Smith" with "badge number 8031" from the U.S. District Court in Bridgeport. The man referred to a case number, stating the person had failed to appear for jury selection, and there was a warrant for their arrest. The caller told the people that a bond had been set and the matter would be resolved if they gave him four Green Dot pre-paid \$500 VISA cards. In one instance, a victim purchased a Green Dot card and, at the caller's direction, provided the card's number to the caller. The public is advised that this is a scam, and if a person were to receive a jury service-related call they should not provide any personal identification information or money to the caller. Federal and state courts in Connecticut do not call prospective jurors or ask for money or personal identifying information over the telephone.

Juror information for the U.S. District Court in Connecticut can be found at www.ctd.uscourts.gov. Anyone receiving a "Jury Duty Scam" phone call should report it, with any available Caller ID information, to the Federal Bureau of Investigation in New Haven at 203-777-6311, or 1-800-CALL FBI (1-800-225-5324). U.S. Attorney Daly urged individuals who receive phone calls from suspicious sources to never disclose personal identifying information, as it may be used to cause serious financial harm and jeopardize a person's credit. "Identity thieves and scammers defrauding the public will be vigorously prosecuted when identified," U.S. Attorney Daly stated. Public affairs contact: U.S. Attorney's Office Tom Carson; (203) 821-3722 or via email at thomas.carson@usdoj.gov.