

The State of Idaho
Fourth Judicial District

LARRY D. REINER
Trial Court Administrator



ADA COUNTY COURTHOUSE
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WARNING: Bogus Phone Calls on Jury Service May Lead to Fraud

In various parts of the United States, citizens are being targeted by phone calls and threatened with prosecution for failing to comply with jury service in federal or state courts. There has not been confirmation that the scam has reached Idaho.

In the calls, the threat of a fine for shirking jury service is used to coerce those called into providing confidential data, potentially leading to identity theft and fraud. These calls are not from real court officials.

Local courts do not require anyone to provide any sensitive information in a telephone call. Most contact between a local court and a prospective juror will be through the U.S. Mail, and any phone contact by real court officials will not include requests for social security numbers, credit card numbers, or any other sensitive information.

Jury duty is a vital civic responsibility and should be taken seriously by all citizens. However, it is a crime for anyone to falsely represent himself or herself as a court official. The local judiciary takes seriously such an offense.

Persons receiving such a telephone call should not provide the requested information, and should notify their local court and the local FBI field office.

November 30, 2005