

# United States District Court

## District of New Mexico

### Office of the Clerk

Pete V. Domenici United States Courthouse



Matthew J. Dykman  
Clerk of Court

333 Lomas Blvd. N.W. - Suite 270  
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87102  
(505) 348-2000 - Fax (505) 348-2028

**Divisional Offices**  
106 South Federal Place  
Santa Fe, NM 87501  
(505) 988-6481  
Fax (505) 988-6473

100 North Church Street  
Las Cruces, NM 88001  
(575) 528-1400  
Fax (575) 528-1425

PRESS RELEASE  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
MONDAY, DECEMBER 21, 2015  
[www.nmd.uscourts.gov](http://www.nmd.uscourts.gov)

### **WARNING: BOGUS PHONE CALLS AND EMAILS ON JURY SERVICE MAY LEAD TO FRAUD**

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. – Citizens in New Mexico continue to be targeted by phone calls and emails, and threatened with arrest and prosecution for failing to comply with jury service in federal courts.

In the phone calls and emails, recipients are often pressured to provide personal identifiers and confidential information (social security number, date of birth, mother's maiden name, credit card numbers, etc.). Threats of a fine and jail time for shirking jury service are used to coerce recipients of such phone calls and emails, into providing this information, potentially leading to identify theft and fraud. In an alternate method the scammer may already have personal information about the citizen, which the scammer uses in an attempt to legitimize the call or email, and may demand the citizen purchase a prepaid debit card and provide the card information to the scammer over the phone or in email, in order to pay off a fine for failing to appear for jury duty. These phone calls and emails are not from real court officials.

Federal courts do not require anyone to provide any sensitive information or pay a fine in an unsolicited phone call or email. Initial notifications of selection to serve jury duty and requests to complete jury duty qualification questionnaires are always initiated by formal written correspondence through U.S. Mail, and instructions are provided for the juror participant to complete their questionnaires on-line over a secure connection.

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 federal court official. The federal judiciary takes seriously such an offense.

Persons receiving such phone calls or emails should not respond or click any links in emails, and should notify the District of New Mexico Clerk's Office Jury Department at 505-348-2070.

Stay current with the United States Courts – District of New Mexico by visiting  
[www.nmd.uscourts.gov](http://www.nmd.uscourts.gov)

###