

## DODGE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Dale J Schmidt Sheriff Scott Mittelstadt Chief Deputy

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Sheriff Dale J Schmidt

Office: 920-386-4115

dschmidt@co.dodge.wi.us

## **Scam Alert**

We have recently received reports that individuals are calling citizens and claiming to be members of the Dodge County Sheriff's Office. Reports are that the person on the line claims to be Major Walker or a Judge or some other ranking official with our agency. They have even provided fake numbers, which they answer claiming to be the Sheriff's Office. They may even have an answering machine set up.

The individual makes false allegations that the citizen has a warrant and attempts to scare them into making payments. Other versions of the scam involve threats that the citizen missed a juror assignment or that they have a warrant.

The Sheriff's Office will never call a citizen and ask them to pay for a warrant over the phone. If you ever receive a phone call like this, hang up and call the Sheriff's Office directly. We will be happy to connect you with a deputy who can help guide you through the scam attempt. Again, Sheriff's Office employees will never ask you to provide payment of any kind over the phone.

Warrants can be paid in person at the Clerk of Courts office during regular business hours or at the Dodge County Jail 24/7. Warrants cannot be paid with gift cards or by using a direct deposit from a bank account. We do not ask you to wire money from Western Union, we will never give you money, or ask for a refund of any kind.

If you receive a phone call from someone who threatens you with a warrant, arrest, or other intimidating statements, call the Sheriff's Office or your local police department. The fastest way to shut these scammers down is to get this knowledge out to as many people as we can so the scammers realize there is no profit in it. Please share this information with all of your family and friends, especially those who would not normally see this on social media.

Questions may be directed to Sheriff Dale J Schmidt.

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