

## **CROOK COUNTY AND PROSECUTING ATTORNEY**

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### Scam of the Week

The Scam of the Week is a scam that was actually received or reported to this office. The scam worked like this. You are contacted by an email, letter or telephone and are told that you have missed jury duty and a warrant has been issued for your arrest. You of course state that that you never received the notice, so they state that they need your social security number, and or drivers license number, date of birth and or other personal information to verify that you were sent the notice or the warrant is actually for you.

The scam is that you were never called for jury duty, no warrant was issued and someone just wants your personal information. If you actually failed to appear for jury duty and the judge issued a warrant for your arrest the Judge would have the Sheriff out to pick you up as soon as you failed to show up. Normally the courts mail you a written document up to six months ahead of time letting you know that you have been selected as a potential juror before you actually get another written notice of your time and date to appear. You might get a reminder call from a Clerk of Court but they certainly would not ask you for personal information.

You can protect yourself from this type of fraud by contacting a local law enforcement officer in person to verify if there is a warrant out for your arrest, by contacting the Clerk of District Court at 283-2535 or the Clerk of the Circuit Court at 283-2929.

In addition to this scam, I have posted many other scams on my web site at: <http://www.crookcounty.wy.gov/attorneyscamalerts&information.html> I have been updating these on a monthly basis.

Sincerely,

Joseph M. Baron, Crook County & Prosecuting Attorney

All,

Getting reports of some states that are receiving this type of scam. Remember to never give your SSN out to anyone over the phone, unless you know it is legitimate.

**Jury Duty Scam DO NOT DELETE WITHOUT READING !**  
This has been verified by the FBI (their link is also included below). Please pass this on to everyone in your email address book. It is spreading fast so be prepared should you get this call. Most of us take those summonses for jury duty seriously, but enough people skip out on their civic duty, that a new and ominous kind of fraud has surfaced.

The caller claims to be a jury coordinator. If you protest that you never received a summons for jury duty, the scammer asks you for your Social Security number and date of birth so he or she can verify the information and cancel the arrest warrant. Give out any of this information and bingo; your identity was just stolen.

The fraud has been reported so far in 11 states, including Oklahoma, Illinois, and Colorado. This (swindle) is particularly insidious because they use intimidation over the phone to try to bully people into giving information by pretending they are with the court system. The FBI and the federal court system have issued nationwide alerts on their web sites, warning consumers about the fraud.