



News Release - Johnson County (Kan.) Sheriff's Office

Date – May 1, 2014

For more information contact Master Deputy Tom Erickson at 913-715-5802

Phone Scam Alerts

Olathe, Kan. – The Johnson County Sheriff's Office has received multiple reports of scammers identifying themselves as sheriff's deputies in an attempt to solicit money.

The first scam involves a person calling and identifying themselves as a deputy or supervisor with the sheriff's office. Scammers have gone so far as to give actual names of active employees. The caller tells the potential victim they have a warrant for a court date they failed to appear at and, because they failed to appear in court, they now have a warrant for their arrest. The caller then instructs the potential victims to purchase some form of gift card and send it to the caller in order to avoid arrest.

The second involves a caller again, identifying themselves as a deputy or supervisor with the sheriff's office. In this scam, the caller directs the person to bring a specified amount of cash to the courthouse in order to avoid arrest.

The sheriff's office procedure for contacting those with warrants does not include a demand for immediate bond payment. Additionally, gift cards or wire transferred money are never accepted as payment for bond. Anyone believing they have been a victim of the scam should contact the sheriff's office or their local police department.

There is a resource for the public to check on outstanding warrants out of Johnson County District Court at www.jocosherriff.org.