



KANAWHA COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

*LAW ENFORCEMENT DIVISION
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*Sheriff Michael Y. Rutherford
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NEWS / MEDIA RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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Scam Alert

Charleston, WV. – The Kanawha County Sheriff’s Office has had a spike in potential phone scam attempts after multiple complaints were received from citizens regarding suspicious calls from alleged law enforcement and court officials.

The current scammer claims to be calling about a missed court appearance from Federal Judge S. Thacker. During phone conversations or voicemail messages, the scammer claims these missed court appearances have created approximately \$2400.00 in fines and instructs the victim to go to an area Kroger Store to get a cashier's check from a kiosk. The scammer also warns that “Jeff Meadows” a Kanawha County Deputy Sheriff will execute the warrants if the fine payments are not met.

Once again, we remind citizens that is NOT how we conduct business, and we urge you to never send money or other payment forms to anyone claiming to be from law enforcement or the court system without taking the appropriate steps to verify the call. These scammers can be convincing, so we urge you to be cautious when accepting unknown calls.

Citizens must BE CAUTIOUS, HANG UP, and CALL 9-1-1 to verify the legitimacy of suspicious calls.



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