

ROCKINGHAM COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE RockinghamSheriff.com 170 N.C. 65 Reidsville, N.C. 27320

## OFFICIAL NEWS RELEASE Sgt. Kevin Suthard, Public Information Officer

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## Sheriff Warns Rockingham County Residents about New Telephone Scam

Date of Release: Monday, April 03, 2017

[Reidsville, N.C.]— The Rockingham County Sheriff's Office has received word of phone scammers calling people in the Rockingham County area stating they are a Deputy with the Rockingham County Sheriff's Office and that they are calling because the recipient of the call has failed to appear for jury duty. The scammer then states that he will have to arrest the recipient unless they pay the scammer money. The scammer requests payment of the money in the form of gift cards or prepaid debit cards.

The caller IDs are showing as 336 area codes, though we suspect they may be numbers that are generated by the scammer to add the air of legitimacy to their call. These numbers are fake and are <u>NOT</u> associated with the Rockingham County Sheriff's Office.

NO DEPUTY FROM THE ROCKINGHAM COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE, OR ANY OTHER LEGITIMATE LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY, WILL <u>EVER</u> CALL ANYONE AND DEMAND TO BE PAID MONEY TO AVOID ARREST. If you are the recipient of one of these calls, inform the scammer you know the call is a scam and hang up the phone immediately!

Sheriff Page is asking the public to contact their local law enforcement agency and report if they receive one of these call. If you are in question about whether you have missed or been summoned to jury duty, contact the Rockingham County Clerk of Court's Office at 336-634-6000 to inquire.

Again, no one from any Rockingham County law enforcement agency will  $\underline{\text{EVER}}$  call and demand money in exchange to avoid being arrested for any sort of court summons or criminal process. If you receive a call to that affect,  $\underline{\text{IT IS}}$   $\underline{\text{A SCAM}}$ !





PAYS UP TO \$1,000 CASH FOR TIPS ON CRIMES. ALL CALLERS REMAIN ANONYMOUS. "LIKE" US ON FACEBOOK AT CRIME STOPPERS OF ROCKINGHAM COUNTY, NC