

## Jury Duty

People — identifying themselves as U.S. Court employees — call to inform you that you have been selected for jury duty. The caller asks you to verify names, Social Security Numbers and credit card information. If the request is refused, he or she may threaten you with fines and prosecution for failing to comply with jury duty.

Tips to protect yourself:

- If you receive one of these phone calls, do not provide any personal or confidential information. Federal courts do not require anyone to provide sensitive information in a telephone call
- If you have given out your personal information, contact your local FBI office. It is a crime for anyone to falsely represent himself or herself as a federal court official.<sup>1</sup>

A similar call may be received from someone claiming to be from your sheriff's office. Here's a tip – the POLICE DEPARTMENT is NOT involved in calling anyone about jury duty. That is a specific responsibility of the sheriff's office. And, the sheriff's office does NOT ask for your credit card information when notifying you of jury duty.

In Lancaster County, Virginia, this is how jury duty notifications are made:

1. By mail: The envelope is has the sheriff's office logo, name, and address pre-printed on the envelope. The envelope has the jury notice with the time, date and location to report to the Lancaster Circuit Court; it is signed by the sheriff; and it is attached to an information page from the circuit court clerk's office. You are asked to call the sheriff's office to verify that you have received the jury notice.
2. In Person: on occasion, deputies will hand deliver the jury notification to you, or a family member. This is typically done for Grand Jury, but may occasionally be done for trial juries.
3. By Telephone: After you have reported the first time, you may receive a call from the sheriff's office notifying you of additional jury duty, or that a trial has been cancelled.

If in doubt about any jury notification in Lancaster County, Virginia, please call the sheriff's office at 804-462-5111.

<sup>1</sup> <http://www.verizon.com/about/responsibility/frauds-and-scams>