

TO: Sherry Richter, Jury Administrator, U.S. Courts, District of Idaho
DATE: May 23, 2024
RE: Federal Grand Jury Scam Call

On May 22, 2024, at 2:40 PM PT, I received a phone call on my personal cellphone from an unknown number. The caller ID from the call did not indicate “Spam Risk.” Instead, it simply said “No Caller ID.” I answered the phone. A male on the other end of the line said that he was a Lieutenant with the Kootenai County Sheriff’s Department. The man on the phone asked me if there was a reason why I had failed to appear for a federal grand jury selection process that took place in federal court at 9:00 a.m. on the day prior. Surprised, I told him that I had not received any summons at my home address and asked him to confirm what address he had on file. He responded with my true address.

I again stated that I had not received a summons. The man indicated that he was going to need me to answer a few additional questions so that he could mark me as a “DNR” or “Did Not Receive.” He asked three questions: (1) whether I often had issues with mail being delivered to the correct address; (2) whether I had any children at the home who could have tampered with the mail; and (3) whether I had reported all changes of address to the Department of Motor Vehicles in the last five years. I answered “No” to the first two questions and “Yes” to the third. The man indicated that he was going to mark me as a “DNR” but that it might be a difficult

process because there were already two citations issued against me for Failure to Appear and Contempt of Court.

I was then told to take down the case numbers for my two citations and read them back to him. They were FTA-221-cv-2051 and COC-221-cv-2024. He then asked me to briefly state my name, address, and that I had not received a federal grand jury summons, but that I would have appeared for selection had I received one. I did so.

Next, the man told me that he was going to transfer me to his Captain for additional information. At this point, I was highly skeptical that this was an honest call. For one, I could not square why Kootenai County would be calling me about failure to appear for a federal grand jury. Before he transferred me, I again asked for the man's name. He told me a name and placed the call on hold. While on hold, I looked up the name he had given me and found a LinkedIn profile matching the name of a current Lieutenant at the Kootenai County Sheriff's Office. However, the man on the phone's speech caused me to believe that he was African American, while the individual I found on LinkedIn appears to be Caucasian. While still on hold, and more certain that this was a fraudulent call, I hung up.

I began to call the line for the Kootenai County Sheriff's Office, (208) 446-1300 in order to corroborate the nature of the call I had received. Before I got through, I received another unknown call. I answered and a different man was on

the other line, stating he was a Captain with Kootenai County. Once on the line with the second individual, he briefly recapped what the first individual had said to me about having pending complaints for failure to appear and contempt of court. While he was speaking, I searched the name he had given me and found another matching LinkedIn profile for a “retired” Captain.

Based on the information I had, I told the second individual that I was suspicious of the nature of the call and wanted to call him back. He told me that disconnecting the line could lead to a notation in my “file” that I was uncooperative and that a warrant could issue. Still, he said that he understood my hesitations and would transfer me to the Kootenai County Emergency line so I could corroborate that he was, indeed, calling from the Kootenai County Sheriff’s Office. I agreed and hung up.

Moments later, I received a third phone call. This time, my cellphone’s caller ID showed the number: (208) 446-1300—the same number listed as the true number for the Sheriff’s office—and said: “KOOTENAI COUNTY.” I answered the call, and the individual told me to go ahead and google the number to confirm that he was in fact calling from the Sheriff’s office. I placed the call on mute while I determined what I would do next. When I got back on the line, I told the individual that I remained suspicious and asked whether I could call Kootenai County myself and be transferred to him. He began giving me a long-winded answer about why that would

be difficult or impossible. I insisted and told him I was going to try to call and be transferred to him. At this point, the individual said, “well now you’re just being a little bitch.” I hung up the third call and have not received any further contact.