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FBI Warns Of Jury Duty Identity Theft Scam

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FBI officials are warning people about scammers who are using jury duty and the fear of going to jail as a way to commit identity theft.

Usually, people receive a notice for jury duty in the mail. But scammers are using that as a way to get personal information, officials said.

"They call you on the phone and they say they're working for the jury commissioner's office. (They say) 'You failed to show for jury duty and the judge is about to issue a bench warrant for your arrest for failure to show. Unless, of course, you'd like to reschedule your jury duty,'" said Jay Foley of the Identity Theft Resource Center.

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Foley said whether you received a summons in the mail or not, it doesn't matter because the scammer has your attention.

"They run you through this little scenario where they ask for your name, Social Security number, date of birth and address," Foley said.

"The U.S. court systems or any local court systems do not call people to obtain that type of information. So, you should be very wary if you do receive a call like that," said Darrell Foxworth of the FBI.

"This started in the Boca Raton, Miami Beach, Florida area, and has spread across the U.S. over the last couple of years," Foley said.

Identity theft can be difficult to repair. Experts said prevention is key.

"Unless you're the party who made the phone call, don't share your personal information. Period," Foley said.

To find out more about scams or to report one, [click here](#).

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