



## **WARNING: Fictitious Arrest Warrant Scams Circulating**

**For Immediate Release (Wednesday, May 28, 2014)**

In recent months, the Administrative Office of the United States Courts has issued warnings about [scams potentially involving the federal district courts](#). In recent days, two new scams have surfaced which involve the threat of criminal arrest if a fine is not paid. In the first scam, a fictitious arrest warrant on criminal charges is mailed (on paper or via email) to an individual, offering a chance to avoid arrest through the payment of a specific amount or a "settlement." If the individual calls the specified phone number, he or she may be asked to provide confidential data and a credit card number to clear the charges.

The second scam involves a phone call stating that a warrant has been issued and the individual will be arrested if a fine is not paid. Further complicating the matter is that the calls sometimes appear to be legitimate court numbers, but are, in fact, bogus, as technology is being used to spoof the Caller ID system.

These requests are not legitimate and do not originate from this court or other court related agencies. Federal courts do not require anyone to provide sensitive information in a telephone call, including requests for social security numbers or credit card numbers. It is a crime for anyone to falsely represent himself or herself as a federal court official and such an offense is taken very seriously by the federal judiciary.

Persons receiving such a telephone call or delivered mail should not provide the requested information or pay any fines and should contact the Federal Bureau of Investigation at (317) 595-4000 to report the incident.