



U. S. DISTRICT COURT  
Western District of Virginia  
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**WARNING:**  
**Bogus Telephone Calls on Jury Service May Lead to Fraud**

In various parts of the United States, citizens are being targeted by telephone calls and threatened with prosecution for failing to comply with jury service in federal or state courts.

In the telephone calls, the threat of a fine for shirking jury service is used to coerce those called into providing confidential data, potentially leading to identity theft and fraud. These telephone calls are not from court officials.

Federal courts do not require anyone to provide any sensitive information in a telephone call. Most contact between a federal court official and a prospective juror will be through the U.S. Mail, and any requests made by telephone will not include requests for social security numbers, credit card numbers, or any other sensitive information.

Jury duty is a vital civic responsibility and should be taken seriously by all citizens. However, it is a crime for anyone to falsely represent himself or herself as a federal court official. The federal judiciary takes seriously such an offense.

Persons receiving such a telephone call should not provide the requested information and should notify the Jury Staff in the Division closest to their residence. The Western District of Virginia Jury Staff may be reached at:

Abingdon Division 276-628-5116

Big Stone Gap Division 276-523-3557

Charlottesville Division 434-296-9284

Danville Division 434-793-7147

Harrisonburg Division 540-434-3181

Lynchburg Division 434-847-5722

Roanoke Division 540-857-5103