



PATTY BAKER
CLERK OF COURTS

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ATTENTION CHEROKEE COUNTY:

It has come to our attention that residents of Cherokee County continue to receive fraudulent phone calls claiming that the victim failed to appear for jury duty in Superior or State Court of Cherokee County. The scammer tells the victim that he or she can avoid arrest by making a payment, which may include purchasing a pre-paid card, such as a gift card, then giving the card number to the scammer.

The scammer may sound convincing and use real information about the victim; real court addresses; and real names of law enforcement officers, court officials, and judges to make the scam appear more credible. It has also been reported that sirens and police chatter can be heard in the background. Scammers may even "spoof" the phone number on caller ID so that the call falsely appears to be from a court number or the number of another government agency.

- The court will always send a jury summons by U.S. Mail.
- The court and law enforcement will **never** demand payment over the phone.
- The court and law enforcement will **never** demand a gift card number to satisfy an obligation.
- A prospective juror who disregards a jury summons will be contacted through the mail by the court and may, in certain circumstances, be ordered to appear before a judge. Such an order will always be in writing and signed by the Judge.
- A fine will never be imposed until after the individual has appeared in court and been given the opportunity to explain his or her failure to appear. If a fine is imposed, it will be in open court and reduced to writing (and will not be payable by gift card).

If you have received a scam phone call or if you wish to verify whether you have been summoned for jury duty in Cherokee County, contact the Jury office at 678-493-6565 or the Cherokee County Sheriff's Office at 678-493-4080.

Thank you,

Patty Baker