



# SHERRI BEVAN WALSH

## SUMMIT COUNTY PROSECUTOR

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## Jury Duty Phone Scam Alert!

AKRON, Ohio (Tuesday, August 9, 2022) – Summit County Prosecutor Sherri Bevan Walsh announced today an alert for Summit County residents to beware of the jury duty scam. The scam, which has been around for years, is once again targeting Summit County residents.

“A local resident recently informed our office that they got a phone call saying a warrant had been issued for their arrest because they missed jury duty. I want to remind everyone that a warrant is never issued for missing jury duty and you will not be forced to pay a fine with a gift card. This is a scam!”, said Prosecutor Walsh. “We’ve seen this scam pop up from time to time. I always urge people to not answer calls from unfamiliar phone numbers.”

The jury duty scam works like many other phone scams. The caller claims that there is a warrant out for your arrest because you missed jury duty. The caller says you can get rid of the warrant by paying a fine with a gift card.

You cannot pay fines or outstanding bills with store gift cards. Scammers hope to catch unsuspecting victims off guard with the threat of an arrest.

In the past, scammers have even used the name of the Summit County Clerk of Courts to sound more legitimate.

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The Summit County Prosecutor's Office offers the following tips if you do answer a call and think about giving out information over the phone:

1. Do not give out personal confidential information, including your Social Security or credit card numbers to anyone you suspect of trying to commit fraud against you.
2. If you should get such a call and wonder if it is true, you can double check the legitimacy of the call by looking up the court number yourself and placing your own call to the courts.
3. Be vigilant about any calls asking for personal information. There are many variants of scams, and the jury-duty call is just one.