

DISTRICT COURT OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS

CLERK'S OFFICE



Glenda L. Lake, Esquire
Clerk of Court

www.vid.uscourts.gov

NOTICE JURY SCAM AWARENESS

The District Court of the Virgin Islands advises the public that courts have received reports in recent months of fraudulent schemes in which individuals in various parts of the United States have impersonated court personnel, law enforcement officers, and other government officials and contacted members of the public regarding alleged failures to appear for jury service. These scams undermine public trust, create confusion about legitimate jury operations, and cause financial harm to the public.

The Court reminds the public that jury service is not initiated by contact with prospective jurors by telephone or email. Jury service begins with an official summons sent by U.S. Mail. Additionally, federal courts do not require citizens to provide confidential information by telephone or email. If eJuror, the online juror system is used, responses must be submitted through the secure, authenticated website and via an email reply.

The Court further clarifies that legitimate court business does not involve demands for immediate payment via telephone, text message, email, or mobile application. Specifically, the public is encouraged to remain vigilant against the following common characteristics of jury scams:

- a caller claims that the recipient missed jury service or failed to respond to a summons;
- the caller demands immediate payment to avoid arrest, fines, contempt proceedings, or other penalties;
- the caller directs the recipient to pay by prepaid card, wire transfer, mobile payment application, cryptocurrency, or gift card;
- the caller uses spoofed phone numbers, official-sounding titles, or publicly available court information to appear credible; and/or
- the caller pressures the recipient to act immediately and discourages independent verification and may sound intimidating.

Any member of the public who receives suspicious communications should not provide personal or financial information. If you encounter misappropriation or impersonation, please report the incident to Kimberley Willett, Jury Administrator, at (340) 775-8001 or kimberley_willett@vid.uscourts.gov. Reports of fraud may also be submitted to the Federal Trade Commission at ReportFraud.ftc.gov or to the FBI's Internet Crime Complaint Center at www.ic3.gov.

DATED: August 10, 2026

/s/ Glenda L. Lake
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