

Clinton County Sheriff's Office

News Release

TO: AREA NEWS

REPORTED BY: Lieutenant N.J. Leon

APPROVED BY: Major M Reid

SUBJECT OF RELEASE: Public Awareness - SCAM

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT: Major M. Reid

Date and Time: 07/13/2018

NARRATIVE: On today's date it was brought to the attention of the Clinton County Sheriff's Office that there is a current scam ongoing where the Clinton County Sheriff's Office phone number has been "spoofed" (a process whereby using a phone application, one may input any number desired to be displayed on a receiving phone's caller ID) and used the spoofed number to convince persons that they need to send funds to "The Sheriff's Office" on the phone to avoid arrest. This is not the case.

Sheriff Favro would like to remind all members of the public that at no time would his office direct any member of the public to send this agency money over the phone for any purpose. However, those choosing to bail out a family member or friend can still do so over the phone by following the directions of the Corrections Officers here at the Clinton County Correctional Facility. Again, this agency would not act on the behalf of any inmate to seek out a person to provide bail monies over the phone. These scams are used often and the basic premise may change slightly. There have been accounts of subjects stating they are the "Sheriff's Office, we have a warrant for you because you didn't pay a fine, you need transfer us the money for the fine or we will come arrest you" or " This is the IRS, you haven't paid all of your taxes. We will arrest you if you do not transfer the money to pay off your account, call us back and we will take you bank information over the phone." With these SCAMS nobody is immune. We have had members here receive the same type of calls.

To be clear, at no time would a government entity call any person and seek out money or payment over the phone. The public is reminded that they should never provide banking information, account numbers or transfer funds in any way over the phone to persons claiming to be a government entity. To be sure, attempt to get any names and or badge numbers, look up that agency on your own and contact then directly to verify any information someone has claimed to you over the phone.

If anyone claims to be the Sheriff's Office looking for funds, contact The Clinton County Sheriff's Office at 518-565-4340 and speak to a dispatcher.