

NEWS RELEASE

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA • COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO

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San Diego Superior Court Warns Public Of Latest Scam

Scammers are back at it again. This time they are targeting the Hispanic community and those who may be afraid to go to authorities. The San Diego Superior Court has received a report about a scammer who reportedly threatens to arrest people unless they pay for items they did not order. A woman recently showed up at court looking for a fictional courtroom number. She had been told there would be a hearing on her refusal to pay for items the scammer said she purchased. The woman was told to either pay \$2,500 or be taken to court. When she came to the courthouse, the woman discovered there was no such case and the threat was a scam.

When court staff dialed the phone number provided to the potential victim, the person who answered said she would only speak in Spanish. The Court is now warning vulnerable non-English speakers about the scam.

"It appears these scammers are targeting members of the community they believe won't go to authorities or show up at a courthouse. It appears they believe they can just take the money and no one will report them. These scams happen every year; sometimes they tell people there are charges for failing to show up for jury services or charges for clearing up arrest warrants, this time its charges for not paying for ordered items. Once again, we want the public to know the Court or law enforcement will not call you with this type of issue and the Court will never, ever demand cash as the way to make charges go away," says Executive Officer Michael Roddy.

The public is instructed to simply hang up on the scammer or contact law enforcement if the scammer gets aggressive.