



**Shreveport Police Department
Chief Wayne Smith**

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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Possible Phone Scam

The Shreveport Police Department would like to warn the community about a reported scam that involves a person impersonating a police officer asking for money over the phone.

Chief Wayne Smith would like to remind citizens that “Police never ask for money over the phone.” We want to make sure that the community understands some of the tricks used by these scammers.

The scammers will often Refer to you by name and tell you the call is being recorded. They may tell you that you missed a court appearance or jury duty or tell you there is a family emergency and request to be contacted at a different phone number.

Tips to help avoid becoming a victim of a scam include:

Never give personal or financial information to an unsolicited caller or email. Be suspicious of callers who demand immediate payment for any reason. Stay private. Regularly update privacy settings for social media sites. Scammers often make their stories more believable by monitoring personal information on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram. Never wire money or provide debit/credit card numbers to a stranger.

Remember no government or law enforcement agency of any kind takes gift cards as payment.