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## KANAWHA COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

LAW ENFORCEMENT DIVISION

301 VIRGINIA STREET EAST CHARLESTON, WV. 25301 304-357-0169

Sheriff Michael Y. Rutherford Chief Deputy Joseph H. Crawford

## NEWS / MEDIA RELEASE

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:** 

November 27, 2023.

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## **Scam Alert**

**Charleston, WV.** – The Kanawha County Sheriff's Office was notified today about more potential scams after several complaints were received from citizens regarding suspicious calls from alleged law enforcement.

The scammer is someone who identifies themselves as Sergeant Richards (Kanawha County Sheriff's Office) and appears to call from an actual number that was "spoofed" to look as if the call is coming from the Kanawha County Sheriff's Office.

Once again, the scammer is threatening citizens with jail time for not appearing in court and requesting payments to remedy the situation. This is NOT how we conduct business, and we urge you to never send money or other payment forms to anyone claiming to be from law enforcement or the court system without taking the appropriate steps to verify the call.

We remind citizens to BE CAUTIOUS, HANG UP, and CALL 9-1-1 about the legitimacy of suspicious calls.

