



# ***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:**

**January 31, 2024.**

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## **Scam Alert**

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

The scammer is someone who identifies themselves as Sergeant Richards (Kanawha County Sheriff's Office) and appears to call from a Nebraska number (402-448-4447)

Once again, the scammer threatens citizens with legal accusations, and directions to either come to the Kanawha County Courthouse or call the alleged Sgt. Richards back.

As always, we urge you to not call these people back on unfamiliar or nonlocal numbers they provide, and 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.



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