

## **Sheriff's Office warns of officer-impersonation phone scam**

Written by gallupsun

Thursday, 08 August 2019 23:40

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McKinley County Sheriff's Office Inv. Merle Bates has issued a warning to the general public regarding spam calls, in which the person says they are "Sgt. Merle Bates" and tells the individual they need to pay for court documents, or pay a fine for not reporting for jury duty.

They will ask for payment via Western Union or gift card. Bates said the Sheriff's dept. will never ask for money over the phone. One of the phone numbers scammers are calling from is 505-718-3301. One scammer spoke with a western accent, Bates said.

If you know of someone that has been scammed, Bates encourages the victim goes to their local law enforcement station and file a police report.