

## **SANTA ROSA COUNTY CLERK OF COURT DON SPENCER WARNS ABOUT JURY DUTY PHONE SCAM THREATING PEOPLE WITH JAIL IF THEY DON'T PAY UP.**

A brazen phone scam that is happening throughout the Country has hit Santa Rosa County. The caller identifies himself as Deputy Harris and accuses the Santa Rosa resident of skipping or missing jury duty. The caller then advises the resident that there is a warrant for their arrest along with threatening jail time. The caller tells the victim to avoid being arrested they need to pay an amount of money. The caller wants the victim to stay on the telephone while the victim goes to the store and buys a prepaid credit card with the amount of money the caller requested. The caller is very demanding and threatening the victim that they will receive a summons to come to the courthouse and appear before a judge to explain why they did not respond to the jury summons. The caller's phone number is (850) 209-3494 which has recently been changed, or disconnected.

This is a SCAM and the Santa Rosa County Sheriff's office does not have a Deputy Harris employed with them.

A victim in Santa Rosa County who was contacted by the phone scammer received a call from a Deputy Harris, and was instructed by the caller to go to a Department Store and purchase a \$498.00 Green DOT Visa prepaid credit card. The caller kept the victim on the telephone during the entire process. Once the victim purchased the Green DOT Card, the victim was instructed to give the card number and pin number from the card to the caller. The victim complied and lost the \$498.00 to the caller.

Clerk **Don Spencer** says "If you receive a call from this scam artist do not give the caller any personal information and hang up on the caller. Do not believe the caller's scare tactics or threats. Please be vigilant and use caution on any type of telephone call which sounds suspicious. You can call the Santa Rosa County Clerk's office jury selection department at (850) 981-5672 if you receive a call from this scammer and have any questions regarding jury duty."