



Wisconsin State Public Defender

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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SPD Clients and Families Subject of Payment Request Scam

MADISON - The Wisconsin State Public Defender (SPD) is alerting clients and their families to protect themselves against a scam where someone pretending to be from the agency asks them for a credit card number to pay for legal fees.

The agency will not contact anyone asking for such information.

In this scam, an unknown person calls a family member claiming to be an in-custody individual to tell them that they will be contacted by someone from the SPD asking for their credit card information. That call is followed up a short time later by an individual claiming to be from the SPD.

The SPD will not contact an individual or their family member to request credit card information.

If you have questions about a call like this, please contact the SPD's Client Accounts and Verification Unit at 800-445-2230. Complaints regarding this scam can also be filed with the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP) online at www.datcp.wi.gov, by calling 800-422-7128, or by emailing DATCPHotline@wisconsin.gov and requesting a complaint form.

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