



# **PROBATION SCAM ALERT**

**Scammers may target you because you or a family member are on probation or required to register as an offender.**

**In a typical scam call, an impostor, posing as a court employee or law enforcement officer, may threaten you with arrest or offer to release someone from jail.**

**Here are the facts:**

- **Scammers may pose as court officials or law enforcement to scare victims into paying a fine to avoid a bogus arrest.**
- **Real law enforcement officers NEVER tell people they are on the way to arrest them. Real officers NEVER tell people they can pay to avoid an arrest.**
- **Legitimate government agencies do NOT call you for payment or accept payments in money wires, gaming apps, gift cards, or Bitcoin.**
- **Do not respond to calls, texts, or emails that threaten you with arrest or legal action.**
- **Don't trust Caller ID displays — scammers may spoof them. If you're really worried, you can contact the agencies listed below.**
- **Don't automatically answer or call back unknown callers. Let them go to voicemail.**
- **Don't be fooled if a caller asks you to go to the Justice Center. It's a scam tactic to trick you.**

**To reach the Cuyahoga County Sheriff's Department anytime,  
contact 216-443-6000**

**To reach the Cuyahoga County Probation Office,  
216-443-7800**

**To report a scam, contact The Cuyahoga County Scam Squad at  
216-443-7226 (SCAM)**