



## Clerk **COMMUNICATION**

Karen E. Rushing | Clerk of the Circuit Court and County Comptroller  
Communications | 941. 861. 7400 | [www.SarasotaClerk.com](http://www.SarasotaClerk.com)

DATE: August 20, 2015  
FROM: Karen E. Rushing, Clerk of the Circuit Court and County Comptroller  
RE: "Notice To Appear" email scam reported

SARASOTA, FL— The Sarasota County Clerk of the Circuit Court and County Comptroller reports that citizens are receiving email solicitation scams generated by entities impersonating Clerks' offices.

**The newly-reported scam is in the form of an e-mail, referencing an upcoming court date, and suggesting the reader click on an attachment.** This recent group of court-related scam emails may attempt to solicit funds, or to retrieve personal data forcefully by launching a malicious attachment when clicked on, or opened.

The Sarasota Clerk of the Circuit Court reminds residents that **court-related communications are sent through normal mail.** Jury summons, court appearance and failure to appear notices are not communicated via email, or telephone.

### **Important tips to remember:**

1. This office does not send unsolicited emails regarding jury or court-related matters. A Clerk representative will not contact a citizen by telephone or email regarding failure to appear for court.
2. The Clerk's office does not telephone or e-mail individuals to request payment, and does not request payment via any sort of prepaid debit or green dot card.
3. On rare occasions, the Clerk's office may initiate a phone call to a citizen regarding jury or court-related matters if a serious emergency occurs. However, these calls are informational in nature, and are not for solicitation of funds.
4. Do not open an e-mail attachment from any unfamiliar source, and do not provide personal information to an unfamiliar source, either by phone or e-mail.

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