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## CIRCUIT COURT CLERK WARNS PUBLIC ABOUT OUTSTANDING TICKET SCAM

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (June 9, 2025) – Our Traffic Violation Bureau office is receiving an increase in calls from customers that are receiving scam text messages referencing an outstanding traffic ticket. The messages include a link that leads to a fake website designed to look like the official Tennessee Department of Safety and Homeland Security site and instructs the recipient to pay immediately to avoid license suspension and other consequences. See the sample spam message below.

## Sample Spam Message

Tennessee Department of Vehicles (DMV) Final Notice: Enforcement Penalties Begin on June 8. Our records show that as of today, you still have an outstanding traffic ticket. In accordance with North Tennessee State Administrative Code 15C-16.003, if you do not complete payment by June 7, 2025, we will take the following actions:

1. Report to the DMV violation database 2. Suspend your vehicle registration starting June 8 3. Suspend driving privileges for 30 days 4. Transfer to a toll booth and charge a 35% service fee 5. You may be prosecuted and your credit score will be affected Pay Now: https://tn.safety-govyc.icu/us

Please pay immediately before enforcement to avoid license suspension and further legal disputes. (Reply Y and re-open this message to click the link, or copy it to your browser.) "I want to keep the public informed and let everyone know that these text messages are not coming from our offices", said Circuit Court Clerk Joseph P. Day. "Please know that our clerks do not send threatening text messages out to defendants regarding past due traffic tickets."

This is a nationwide scam, however Metro ITS has some precautions to take if you receive one of these spam messages.

- Do not respond to the message.
- Do not click on any links or attachments or provide any Personal or financial information.
- Check the end of a suspicious email. Emails from Tennessee State Government end in "@tn.gov". Messages from Gmail, Hotmail, iCloud, or other providers are not official.
- Always use a verified phone number or website. Do not use use the contact information in a suspicious message.

If you are uncertain if communication is from our Traffic Violation Bureau office, please contact the office directly. You may also verify by sending an email to the Circuit Court Clerk's office at <u>circuitclerkpr@nashville.gov</u>

## ABOUT THE OFFICE OF THE CIRCUIT COURT CLERK

Our mission is to provide an *unparalleled* level of customer satisfaction through exceptional service and technological accessibilities, the Davidson County Circuit Court Clerk's office is dedicated to maintaining records with accuracy, integrity, ingenuity and transparency while also serving the needs of the judiciary, legal professionals and community. For more information, visit <u>http://circuitclerk.nashville.gov</u>