

BERNALILLO COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
SHERIFF MANUEL GONZALES III



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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**AUDIO: SCAM ALERT: Sheriff Manuel Gonzales III Issues
Countywide Scam Alert for Phony Officer "Warrants & Citations" Calls**

Albuquerque, NM - This morning Sheriff Manuel Gonzales III issued a Scam Alert in response to a report from a diligent Bernalillo County resident who reported this fraudulent activity to the Bernalillo County Sheriff's Office. In the voicemail, this scammer claims to be "Sgt. Ray Davis" with the "Warrants and Citations Division" of the Bernalillo County Sheriff's Office, giving a phone number using the 505 area code. These calls are scams, BCSO has no such division, and law enforcement does not call you if you have a warrant or citation asking for payment over the phone. Those matters are handled via mail. Law enforcement will never call you to ask for money over the phone, so please do not give financial information in response to these fraudsters.

"These scammers are trying to prey on New Mexicans during this health and economic crisis, and doing it in the name of law enforcement is even more concerning," said **Sheriff Manuel Gonzales III**, "I am warning residents to remain diligent and never give their financial information over the phone to callers, no matter the threats. Hang up right away and report the scams to BCSO or the Office of the Attorney General's Consumer Protection Division. And to the scammers, if you keep trying to steal from our residents, law enforcement will catch up to you."

Attached is audio of the scam. Media has permission to broadcast this recording, we just ask that you redact the name of the person the scammer was trying to contact. The citizen who reported this scam gave BCSO permission to share the recording to the media.

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