



JOE LESTER
Sheriff

DATE: Friday, May 30, 2014

SUBJ: **PRESS RELEASE by Sheriff Joe Lester**

CCSO warns public of person impersonating deputy

The Cleveland County Sheriff's Office has received four reports since Thursday of a male who is impersonating a sheriff's deputy and leaving phone messages for individuals in Cleveland County.

The caller identifies himself as Lt. Timothy Clark with the sheriff's office. CCSO does not have any employee with that name.

According to the reports, the caller leaves an angry voicemail message and urges the person to call him back immediately. When people have tried to dial the phone number, there is a message letting the person know the number has been disconnected.

The sheriff's office received two calls from the public Thursday afternoon about this individual, and another two Friday morning.

All CCSO deputies carry their identification on them. Always ask to see an ID if there is question about the person claiming to be a law enforcement officer.

Sheriff Joe Lester said the department is concerned about these incidents. Deputies are investigating the matter.

"If you receive a call from this individual, hang up and immediately call the Cleveland County Sheriff's Office and report the incident," Lester said. "Do not agree to meet this person for any reason."

The Cleveland County Sheriff's Office can be reached at 701-8888.

Any questions regarding this press release and/or information can be addressed to Meghan McCormick, Cleveland County Sheriff's Office, community liaison/public information officer. McCormick can be reached at (405) 701-8847.