

ATASCOSA COUNTY JUDGES REPORT

I want to share with you an episode I dealt with on this past Friday. I received a call from an alleged family asking me to bail them out of jail. His voice sounded ok, but he claimed he had a broken nose from a car wreck and could not talk well. His voice must have been disguised. My family member had been in jail before, therefore, it was believable. The interesting thing is that, just as the alleged arrestee said would happen, an alleged attorney named Anthony Davis called me within five minutes. Mr. Davis claimed to be with the Atascosa County Public Defenders Office. He told me the bail was \$4,500. He said that if we paid the bail and got the arrestee out, he could get the charges dismissed on Monday and I would get a full refund.

I asked where I should go to pay the bail and he told me he would call me back with payment information. None of this was in sync with the real process, so I immediately called the Director of the Public Defender's office to see if Anthony Davis worked with her. She said not only did Anthony Davis not work in our Public Defenders Office, but he was also not listed with the State Bar Association as a licensed attorney. I had told him I would call him back. I did that and asked him again to clarify where he worked and who he was. I then asked him why the Director of Atascosa Public Defenders never heard of him. I asked for his state bar license number. Then he hung up. I called Ms. Walters of the Atascosa Public Defenders Office and asked what to do. She said it was a scam and I should report it to the Sheriff. I did that, and the Sheriff told me they have had several other such scams reported this year. I called the phone number for my alleged family member, and it was a no answer and was no longer taking messages. I called the alleged attorney's phone, and his number was now disconnected. After some research I found the family member in concern was not in jail and was out of town working. That is a good ending!

I am writing this so my readers will know to smell a rat if they get a call like this. If you get one report it to your municipal or county law enforcement right away.

Please be careful! The numbers for COVID are dangerous. There is no reason not to get the shots. I recommend masks be worn when around other people, especially indoors.

Thank you. I pray that God will bless Atascosa County and all its citizens.