

# Caddo Sheriff warns of scams

Wednesday, January 22, 2020

Two scams are circulating in the local area causing Caddo Sheriff Steve Prator to issue a word of warning.

The first scam involves bogus text messages claiming to be from Fed Ex or another delivery service. The text message appears to show a tracking code from the package delivery company and prompts the user to enter their delivery preferences. The link to set those preferences takes the recipient to a fraudulent site where the recipient's personal and financial information can be compromised by scammers.

The second scam targets registered sex offenders. Several people locally have reported being contacted over the phone by someone representing themselves as law enforcement. The caller states that the registered sex offender failed to provide a DNA sample, but they can avoid arrest by paying \$2,500 on an electronic money card. They even request that the offender stay on the phone line with the caller until the transaction is complete.

Prator says if you aren't initiating these calls yourself, beware. Never open suspicious texts or links. Do your own research by contacting the delivery company online to check for shipping information. In the case of outstanding warrants, Prator said law enforcement will never call you on the phone. If you have questions about your status, call the phone number listed in the phone book or online. Never use the phone number provided by the caller.