



Hunterdon County Sheriff's Office

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 5, 2025

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Hunterdon County Sheriff And Prosecutor Warn Residents About DMV Text Scam

Sheriff Fred Brown and Prosecutor Renée Robeson are alerting residents to a new wave of fraudulent text messages claiming to be from the state Department of Motor Vehicles (DMVs). These scam texts often request personal information or payment and may include malicious links.

“These scammers are getting more sophisticated, but it’s important to remember that no legitimate DMV will ever ask for your personal information or payment through a text message,” said Sheriff Fred Brown. “We’re asking the public to be alert, report these messages, and never click suspicious links.”

One of the first clues that it’s a scam is the use of “DMV.” In New Jersey, the agency has been officially renamed the Motor Vehicle Commission (MVC) - not DMV. Any message referring to the outdated name should be treated as suspicious.

Prosecutor Renée Robeson emphasized the importance of caution when receiving unsolicited messages, “We want to remind the community not to click on links in text messages. Bad actors often pose as trusted organizations to trick you into giving up personal information.

When in doubt, contact the organization directly using a verified phone number or website. Your vigilance helps avoid becoming a victim of fraud.”

Residents who receive suspicious text messages are advised to:

- Report the message to the Federal Trade Commission at reportfraud.ftc.gov and/or the FBI’s Internet Crime Complaint Center at ic3.gov.
- **Do not** respond or click any links in the message.
- Verify independently by contacting your state’s DMV using an official website or trusted phone number.
- Report and block the number through your mobile phone’s messaging app.

The community is encouraged to stay informed and take immediate action when encountering suspicious digital activity. “Scammers prey on urgency and fear,” Sheriff Brown said. “Take a moment to pause, verify, and report. Your quick action can protect you - and help protect others.”

For further information or to report suspicious activity locally, contact the Sheriff’s Office at: 908-788-1166.