



## DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

DAVID Y. IGE  
GOVERNOR

NOLAN P. ESPINDA  
DIRECTOR

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 16, 2019

### SCAMMERS CLAIM TO BE DRUG ENFORCEMENT ADMINISTRATION, USING PSD NARCOTICS ENFORCEMENT DIVISION PHONE NUMBER

HONOLULU – The Public Safety Narcotics Enforcement Division (NED) wants to alert the public to a recent phone scam. It has been reported that scammers, using the NED main office telephone number, are trying to fool physician offices into thinking they are in trouble with the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) by telling them to pay money to get charges cleared otherwise they face arrest.

This is similar to other recent phone scams where the call comes in from what appears to be a local government number. The number is usually spoofed, or cloned, to fool people into thinking it is a legitimate caller. We want to remind people just because the call shows a local phone number, does not make it legitimate, and the best course of action is to not answer numbers you don't recognize. The Narcotics Enforcement Division will never ask for personal information or solicit payment over the phone. They will never say they are representing another agency. Hawaii residents are also advised not to provide credit card numbers or other personal information to callers claiming to represent a law enforcement agency or the courts.

If you receive a call matching this scam, please alert the Sheriff Division by calling 586-1352.

###

#### Media Contact:

Toni Schwartz  
Public Information Officer  
Hawaii Department of Public Safety  
Office: 808-587-1358  
Cell: 808-683-5507

Toni.E.Schwartz@hawaii.gov  
<http://hawaii.gov/psd/>